

THE TIMES

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MONDAY JUNE 24 1996

10P
EVERY
SUMMER
MONDAY



EURO 96

- England prepare to meet Germany without Klinsmann PAGES 25-30
- England and India head for a draw in Lord's Test PAGE 31
- Wimbledon supplement 16 PAGES



A new generation is returning to faith PAGES 14, 15



10P
EVERY
SUMMER
MONDAY

Clear improvement by 11-year-olds

School tests give boost to Shephard

By JOHN O'LEARY AND ANDREW PIERCE

A DRAMATIC improvement in the standards achieved by 11-year-olds in this summer's national tests in English and mathematics has given a boost to Gillian Shephard's step-by-step approach to education reform.

On the eve of the announcement of radical plans to fulfil John Major's dream of a grammar school in every town, the test results, to be published later this year, have provided valuable ammunition for the Education and Employment Secretary.

Early projections by officials at the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority show 50 per cent reaching or exceeding the required level in English, compared with 48 per cent last year. A further 12 per cent are expected to be awarded higher passes, compared with 5 per cent last year.

In mathematics, the proportion meeting the standard is expected to increase from 44 to 53 per cent, with the higher-level pass rate also rising. Results in science are still the best of the three subjects tested.

Ministers, as well as teachers, faced a storm of criticism when last year's tests showed fewer than half of all pupils reaching the expected standard in English and mathematics before leaving primary school. But an analysis of the latest results shows a transformation in both core subjects.

Mrs Shephard's private opposition to a rapid acceleration in the grammar school programme, which will be announced tomorrow, has put her at odds with the Downing Street Policy Unit and angered right-wing Tory MPs who see the move as a vote winner.

The proposals will be unveiled by Mrs Shephard at the



Shephard: at odds with policy on grammars

launch of a White Paper on selection which will signal the end of successive governments' commitment to comprehensive education and will put "clear blue water" between the Tories and Labour.

Under the plans, opt-out schools will be offered the opportunity to select up to 50 per cent of their intake by ability and aptitude. The Funding Agency for Schools, responsible for opted-out schools, is expected to be given equal powers to propose new schools anywhere in England and Wales.

Publication of the White Paper will see the return of education to the centre of the political stage as ministers are planning to make education a key electoral battleground as Labour is opposed to any further increases in selection.

Mrs Shephard, who was criticised by teachers last year for the decision to publish test results of 11-year-olds, was said to be relieved by the big improvement in the figures. Last year fewer than half of all pupils reached the expected standard in English and mathematics before leaving primary school. An analysis of

the this summer's results, leaked in *The Times*, shows a leap in performance. The disclosure will ease pressure on the minister who last week was given a warm reception at a private meeting of the executive officers of the 1922 Tory backbench committee.

With the good news on test results, and the launch of the White Paper, Mrs Shephard's supporters were hoping last night that the rumours of discontent about her performance will cease.

Sir Malcolm Thornton, the former Tory education minister, who is chairman of the Commons education select committee, said Mrs Shephard had been vindicated by the test results. "They will help to rebut the unfair criticism which has been levelled at Gillian Shephard from her own side. The Shephard approach to reform, evolution and not revolution, is the right one."

Labour is planning to unveil tomorrow its own proposals to increase school funding by capping the amount a future government would allow local education authorities to spend on administration.

The Opposition will seek to embarrass Mrs Shephard by highlighting reports that she actively campaigned to close grammar schools, as a Norfolk county councillor, after the Conservatives legislated to preserve them.

Teaching unions last night condemned the White Paper. Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters-Union of Women Teachers, said it was a "curious ragbag of measures which will do little for education and even less for the political fortunes of the Conservative Party."



Punk nostalgia was on show in Finsbury Park, north London, as the Sex Pistols staged a much-hyped reunion concert. Caidin Moran, Page 6

Beef ban over in months, says Major

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND ANDREW PIERCE

JOHN MAJOR will tell MPs today that the European Union ban on British beef exports across the world should be lifted completely "within months".

He will also say that separate parts of the embargo, including that on prime beef from grass-fed herds with no history of BSE and young calves, should be raised as early as the autumn. He will say that he wants the ban to countries outside the EU, including South Africa, to be lifted sooner.

The Prime Minister's high

risk decision to put estimates for the first time on the removal of the ban, comes despite the absence of a timescale in the peace deal that ended the beef war at the Florence summit. The move comes as Cabinet ministers are increasing the pressure on John Major to sack or move Douglas Hogg from his post of Agriculture Minister. At least five ministers, including Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, Dr Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, and Roger Freeman, Public Service Minister, are leading the opposition to Mr Hogg.

They have expressed their views to Alastair Goodlad, the Chief Whip, and the Prime Minister is aware of the disquiet. A reshuffle of middle-ranking ministers will be held next month. Mr Major has made clear he has no intention of changing his Cabinet.

His Commons statement will be welcomed by Conservative MPs who have been under pressure from farmers to give them hope of an early lifting of the ban. It is also designed to counter Labour claims that the embargo will still be in force at the time of the election.

The Prime Minister is also preparing for another confrontation with Europe by opposing any further moves towards integration. He has decided to use the EU's decision to hold two summits rather than one during the Irish presidency, which begins next month, to set out a sceptical platform highlighting the differences with Labour.

Mr Major is expected to say

that he will not allow progress in the inter-governmental conference (IGC) unless it shows it is prepared to take action to prevent the use of health and safety rules to impose the social chapter on Britain by

Continued on page 2, col 6
Birth of BSE, page 7
Florence summit, page 11
Peter Riddell, page 20

Papandreou dies

The death of Andreas Papandreou, the Socialist firebrand of Greece, could remove an obstacle to the Europeanisation of the ruling Panhellenic Socialist Movement, the party he founded. Page 9

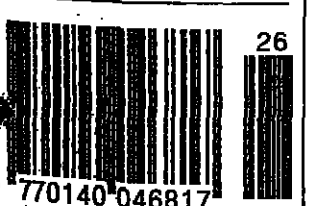
Obituary, page 23

£5 m 'parachute'

A golden parachute payment of £5 million has been arranged for Victor Rice, chief executive of LucasVarity. He will get the payment if he is dismissed in the five years after the £3.2 billion merger of Lucas and Varity. Page 48

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TV & RADIO 46, 47
WEATHER 24
CROSSWORDS 24, 48

Another day and another enemy for the press corps

By JOE JOSEPH

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE has turned into Sir Winston Churchill overnight as Commander-in-Chief Terry Venables blossoms into Britain's all-purpose, wartime saviour.

After beating Croatia yesterday, Germany, the Euro 96 favourites, meet England in the semi-finals on Wednesday. Many people see the fixture as a long-delayed Wimbledon replay of the 1966 World Cup Final, a game which convinced England that it really was a nation of footballers, and which convinced Germany that England had pulled a fast one.

London's fury with Bonn over the beef war has only added spice to the match. Clausewitz was wrong: it's not war that is the continuation of politics by other means. It is football that is the continuation of war by other means.

Women everywhere are defiantly sewing lions to their sons' football shirts and selflessly offering to bear Alan Shearer's babies.

The British soccer reporters stationed at England's training ground-cum-Command HQ in Buckinghamshire send

back news of victories and casualties from the front. Much of a press conference at the England camp yesterday was spent quizzing Terry Venables in such minute detail that it sounded like a medical tutorial.

Having now sent the Spanish Armada packing, British tabloids - the advance shock troops of modern tactical warfare - are preparing to send in their tanks against the



"Venables should pick him - he'd terrify the Germans"

German. They are packed not with alert soldiers, but with a far scarier crew: pun-crazy headline writers who will craft inky shrieks of abuse, things like 'Spit-fire at 'em Tel', or 'Send the Fokkers packing'.

Germany through. Wednesday's game against England will be the final," said Kai-Uwe Hesse from Germany's *Bild*, a national daily tabloid which already has seven journalists and a photographer here. "You can forget next Sunday."

Christian Lorenz of *Express*, of Cologne said: "It will be 1966 all over again. We'll be re-analysing that dubious goal. But we don't have these war-mongering phrases that British newspapers have been using against the Spanish. We won't be writing that 'German tanks are rolling again'."

The man from *Bild* finally located England captain Tony Adams. "Do you have a word for Germany?" Hesse asked. "I have two words," snapped Adams, joking.

Tickets fury, page 3
Euro 96 reports, pages 25-30

Howard carpets new prison chief

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD has clashed with the new Chief Inspector of Prisons and has tried to stop him discussing prison policy in public.

The Home Secretary acted amid concern in the Home Office and prison service over the high profile General Sir David Ramsbottom has presented since starting work seven months ago. His actions have included a dramatic walk-out at Holloway prison in north London in protest over conditions.

Sir David has publicly expressed scepticism about boot camps for young offenders and about a "supermax" jail to hold the most dangerous criminals. He has also suggested that prison health care should be contracted out to the NHS.

Mr Howard intervened after Sir David held a press conference on the second day of an inspection of Doncaster jail in South Yorkshire. At what was described as an "acrimonious" meeting in the Home Office, he told Sir David that he was expected to report to him, not the media.

The chief inspector was told that Mr Howard wanted in future to be told the outcome of

his inspections before the media.

Twelve days ago, when Sir David, 61, had planned to address a press conference about the treatment of women in prison and about women's jails in England and Wales, the Home Secretary made clear that he should not stray into areas of policy. As a result, Sir David's remarks were confined largely to the improvements in conditions he had found during a second inspection at Holloway.

Whitehall sources deny that Mr Howard has reprimanded Sir David, but a senior official said the Home Secretary had told him "quite firmly" that he should not stray into matters of criminal justice and prison policy. "The Home Secretary wishes to be consulted when Sir David is making public pronouncements," the official said.

Mr Howard's interventions follow remarks made by Sir David in which he appeared to have moved beyond his brief of inspecting prisons and reporting to the Home Secretary on the treatment of prisoners and conditions in the 135 jails in England and Wales.

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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

Part two of our series on modern spirituality
PLUS: The Libby Purves column

what we believe

WEDNESDAY

STYLE

Summer's best white shirts and how to wear them
PLUS: Win a multimedia PC worth £4,000, in Interface

THURSDAY

FILMS

Whoopi Goldberg in *Moonlight & Valentino*, and other films of the week
PLUS: The best of books

FRIDAY

POP

Paul Sexton meets Roger Daltrey on the eve of the Who's Hyde Park reunion

SATURDAY

SUMMER OF 1864

Lynne Truss on painters, photographers, poets and the Isle of Wight
PLUS: Weekend, Car 96, Weekend Money, 1015 for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK COLLECT TOKENS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A TRIP TO THE OLYMPICS

Heseltine may lift monopoly on mail

BY ANDREW PIERCE AND PHILIP BASSETT

MICHAEL HESELTINE has intervened in the postal dispute, threatening to suspend the Royal Mail's monopoly on delivering letters because of exasperation with the Department of Trade and Industry.

The Deputy Prime Minister was appalled that Friday's 24-hour strike by more than 100,000 workers, the first in the business for a decade, passed without a word of public condemnation from Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade.

Mr Heseltine has ordered Mr Lang to prepare to suspend the

monopoly on each day of the dispute to enable private operators to step in.

Mr Heseltine believes that the strike, the first in a series of planned one-day stoppages, offers ministers a rare opportunity to go on the offensive against the Labour Party. He is supported by Brian Mawhinney, the Tory Party chairman, who has used the dispute to attack Margaret Beckett, Shadow President of the Board of Trade, who is regarded in Tory circles as "old Labour".

Mr Lang has resisted the "politicisation" of his department and has refused to become embroiled in party politicking on the merits of the mail strike, which was called over

pay and working practices. He believes that a public and divisive intervention could wreck the peace talks due to start today between the Communication Workers' Union and the Royal Mail.

A DTI source said: "There is no benefit for us in meddling in this. Any intervention from us could be counter-productive and lead to a more prolonged strike."

The Royal Mail has a monopoly on letters that cost less than 1p to handle, and private firms are keen to be allowed into this delivery market. Yesterday it insisted that the suspension was an option that had been considered even before the interven-

tion of Mr Heseltine. A spokeswoman said: "Any question of suspending the monopoly would be considered in the light of prevailing circumstances. Nothing is ruled in or out."

If this week's planned further one-day stoppage on Thursday is followed by others, or extended into longer strikes, the DTI will come under heavy pressure from business for the monopoly to be suspended.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, yesterday accused the Government of trying to destroy the Post Office. "I would regard it as deeply damaging and indeed vindictive on behalf of the Government if it was to tackle the monopoly over the

letter supply by the Post Office. "It is characteristic of this Government that given actually one big institution that works well and works efficiently, they want to destroy it," he told BBC TV's *Breakfast With Frost*.

He said that the post strike was a matter for the union, but Labour did not want to see another day of dispute.

The Communication Workers' Union has called a second 24-hour strike from next Thursday. The Royal Mail described the industrial action as "senseless" and said it had been making every effort to end the dispute. "Our patience is not inexhaustible," a spokesman said.

Portillo heads counter-attack against Labour

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL PORTILLO is returning to the Tory front line to spearhead a counter-offensive against Labour.

The Defence Secretary will chair a new committee at Conservative Central Office that will co-ordinate attacks on Tony Blair and the Labour Party. Alleged divisions in the Shadow Cabinet, Labour's tax-and-spend image, renewed attacks on the "loony left" in Labour town halls, and contradictions in Labour's education policy will be top of the Portillo agenda. Brian Mawhinney, the Tory chairman, is determined to increase his firepower against Labour.

Other electioneering committees are being set up this week, which will be chaired by Cabinet heavyweights such as Michael Heseltine. The move is a further sign that the party high command is preparing for a possible early election.

Mr Portillo is to work closely with the Tory research department to convert anti-Labour propaganda into hard-hitting attacks in the national and regional media.

Education will be a key area. The first page of a ten-page Central Office report, *Labour say one thing but do another*, is devoted to the subject. It contrasts Labour MPs who send their children to grant-maintained schools with the policy statements of David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary. Education ministers have been pri-

vately criticised by Tory MPs for being too soft on Labour. Central Office will sharpen the attacks.

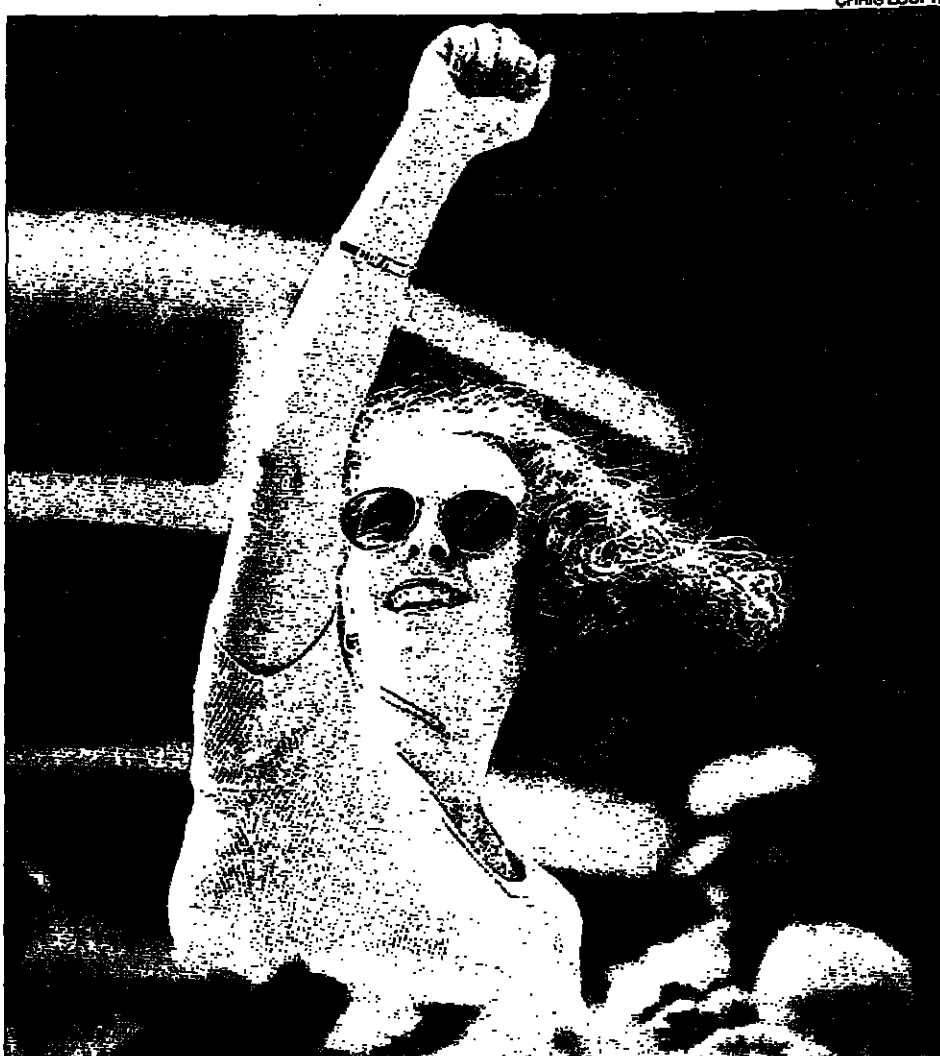
Central Office has a new computer, *Excalibur*, which will store politicians' recent speeches, gaffes, policy statements, and canvass returns.

Mr Portillo's return to the spotlight of will delight his supporters on the Tory Right who are conscious that his stock has tumbled sharply in the last 12 months. Until last year's party leadership election, many moderate Tory MPs had feared that Mr Portillo, who is the same age as Mr Blair, would become the next leader of their party.

But since the leadership contest Mr Portillo's star has waned and he has been eclipsed by John Redwood, who has raised the standard of the Tory Right, having challenged John Major for the party leadership last summer.

A poll in *The Times* last month showed that, for the first time, John Redwood had overtaken Mr Portillo in the public's ranking of possible successors to Mr Major. However, Mr Portillo is popular with the Tory grass roots.

Mr Portillo's reputation has been battered by a series of gaffes not least the suggested sale of Admiralty Arch. The decision was hastily reversed by Downing Street. He was also criticised for his rumbustious Euro-sceptic speech at last year's Tory conference.



A partygoer getting into the swing in Albert Square, Manchester, yesterday

Shattered city rebuilds party spirit

MANCHESTER staged a street party yesterday to restore public confidence in its city centre, shattered by an IRA bomb last weekend.

Thousands of people, including Euro 96 football fans, went to the central Albert Square to enjoy music and street entertainment. Some

shops were open, but the badly damaged Arndale Centre next to the scene of the blast remains closed.

Engineers and council chiefs will be about to begin assessing detailed reports of the damage before making decisions about the centre's future. Marks & Spencer,

whose store took the full force of the blast, has announced that it will rebuild in the city.

Pat Karney, chairman of the council's city centre subcommittee, said: "This was an important weekend for the city. We have to show the world that Manchester is back in business."

Railways to lose safety committee

The rail industry's highest safety body is to be scrapped because of privatisation (Jonathan Prynn writes). The British Rail Joint Safety Committee will meet almost certainly for the last time in October, more than 20 years after it was set up.

The committee is the only nationwide safety body pooling the views of rail managers and workers, and meets quarterly. Lew Adams, head of the drivers' union ASLEF, said the change was outrageous. A BR source said the fragmentation of the rail industry made change necessary.

Instead, discussions between workers and management about safety will take place on a less formal, local level. Legal responsibility for safety on the railways is being transferred to Railtrack.

Image of canny Scot 'not racist'

Advertising watchdogs have rejected complaints that a commercial which joked about the Scots being careful with money was "racist and offensive to the Scottish". Eleven viewers complained about the advertisement for the B&Q chain in which a Scotsman said that the DIY stores had never had better deals and then added: "I should know, I'm a Scotsman." The Independent Television Commission said the comment was goodnatured.

Family angry at road rage claim

Kent Police yesterday dismissed suggestions that Stephen Cameron, who died in a stabbing in a "road rage" attack near the M25 at Swanley, knew his killer. They said they were still treating the incident, a month ago, as a random attack resulting from a driving dispute. The families of Mr Cameron and his fiancée, Danielle Cable, said they were angered by the suggestion and described them as a "pack of lies".

Elderly couple found murdered

An elderly couple have been found murdered in their home. The bodies of Joseph Ploch, 86, and his wife Kornelia, 82, were discovered by police on Saturday after neighbours in Fulham, west London, reported that they had not been seen for several days. A post-mortem revealed that the couple had been strangled. Mrs Ploch had facial injuries. Police, who have launched a murder hunt, said they were not aware of a motive.

Call for refunds over roadworks

Britain's 25 million motorists should be given rebates on their car tax when too much of the road network is under repair, the Automobile Association claims today. John Dawson, the policy director, is calling for a payment of £10 for every month that standards slip under the Highway Agency's Road User's Charter, which says that 93 per cent of lanes on motorways and trunk roads should be free from roadworks at all times.

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MPs to have free vote on changes to defamation law

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

MPs are to be given a free vote this evening on whether they want to alter their 300-year-old laws of privilege to help them to sue newspapers for libel. John Major and the Lord Chancellor have given their tacit support to an amendment to the Defamation Bill that would change the 17th-century Bill of Rights.

Many Tory backbenchers also want more ammunition to fight newspaper allegations of sleaze. But the Labour front bench has made it clear that it will frown upon such a move, and hopes for support from several Tory rebels are expected to support them in tonight's third reading.

Labour claims the amendment only seems to have been added to help the Tory MP

Neil Hamilton, who was forced to resign as a minister after a newspaper accused him of impropriety. Mr Hamilton has led a campaign for the amendment which will allow MPs to waive their privileges after a court ruling prevented him from suing *The Guardian* after a "cash for questions" allegation. The newspaper's lawyers successfully argued that because of MPs' privilege, they were unable to question Mr Hamilton on matters in the Commons, so the case was prejudiced.

The Lords backed the amendment after Baroness Thatcher gave it her support, but Labour has added to wrecking amendments in the Commons. Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokes-

man, said: "We are gravely concerned about the way in which the constitution is being tampered with to allow one individual MP to bring a case to court. Such a major constitutional change should have occurred only after widespread consultation."

The Liberal Democrats are even more vitriolic. They want to give the privileges committee in each House responsibility for waiving immunity in court proceedings.

Mr Hamilton said: "I have been caught up in an anomaly. The Bill of Rights is meant to be there to protect citizens and give them a fair hearing, and I am being denied that right."

Leading article, page 21

Fire bomb attack on meat firm

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A LIVESTOCK transporter narrowly missed death yesterday after an incendiary device fixed to one of his lorry's front wheels failed to ignite. But two other lorries in the yard at Dry Drayton, Cambridgeshire, were gutted when another device exploded.

Michael Speechley, 42, arrived at the yard at 2am to find the blazing lorries. He jumped into another one to move it out of the way. Police later found a device under the cab. A barn and a car were also destroyed.

"It took my breath away when I realised, I would assume this is animal rights people. But I don't know why they've picked us," he said.

He said the business, which he runs with his brother Peter, 44, had received an anonymous call six months ago asking "How can you do it?". "But we've never been involved in anything high profile. We just take cattle and pigs from farms to abattoirs."

In another attack yesterday two lorries were set ablaze in an abattoir yard at Minsterworth, Gloucestershire.

Early end to beef ban

Continued from page 1

the back door. He claims that the directive imposing a 48-hour week on Britain, on which the European Court is shortly to rule, is being foisted on this country through improper use of the rules. The Prime Minister's advisors have welcomed Dublin's desire to stage a special summit to give impetus to the IGC in the middle of October after the Tory conference. Mr Major is pushing for a draft IGC treaty to be available at the second Dublin summit in December.

Mr Major intends to maintain and perhaps harden the tough line he has already taken in the White Paper preparing for the IGC. He will refuse to accept any prospect of extending the use of the veto or the powers of the European Parliament. He is to press for the principle of subsidiarity, taking decisions at the lowest possible level into the EU treaties, and he wants to reform the Common Fisheries Policy. He will also block any plans to integrate European Foreign and Home Affairs policies.

Speculation over the future of Mr Hogg was fuelled yesterday by his withdrawal, at one hour's notice, from an interview on the BBC *World at One*. A BBC radio car

arrived at the Minister's London home to take him to the studio at midday, but it was turned away by his wife, Baroness Hogg, the former head of the Downing Street policy unit. According to BBC sources, Lady Hogg explained that Downing Street had intervened and asked Mr Hogg not to go ahead with the interview. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, was giving a live interview on BBC1 television about the end of the beef war 30 minutes earlier. He was asked twice on the programme, *On the Record*, whether he had full confidence in Mr Hogg, but declined to answer.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture said: "Mr Hogg withdrew because Malcolm Rifkind went to the summit and is regarded as the spokesman on the issue." But it was David Davis, the Foreign Office Minister whose reported threat to resign from the Government was linked to the performance of Douglas Hogg, who had been scheduled to take part in the radio programme. He only dropped out when Mr Hogg agreed to take part on Saturday night.

Birth of BSE, page 7
Florence summit, page 11
Peter Riddell, page 20

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Ticket fury at Wembley as 12-hour queue is told: you should have phoned

By JOHN GOODBODY
SPORTS NEWS
CORRESPONDENT

EXTRA police were called to Wembley box office yesterday as angry football fans threatened officials who refused to sell them tickets for the Euro 96 semi-final. England supporters had travelled hundreds of miles and queued all night, only to discover that bookings had to be made by credit card over the phone.

Thousands who tried to ring the box office from around Britain heard only a dead-line tone, caused when a massive number of calls are received on one number.

Some supporters queued for more than 12 hours in the hope of buying one of the remaining 3,000 seats when the stadium opened at 9am yesterday. They insisted that a message on the stadium's answering machine did not make clear that there would be no personal sales, as had been the case for the quarter-final against Spain.

About 40 fans spent the night in sleeping bags, and others travelled through the night from as far afield as Newcastle and Leicester. Many refused to disperse despite being told no tickets were available.

After three hours of negotiations between UEFA, the European governing body, the Football Association and Wembley, they were promised first call on any tickets returned out of the 7,000 seat-allocation to England's opponents for the Wednesday match.

Hours later, the fans' worst fears were realised as Germany beat Croatia 2-1 in their quarter-final at Old Trafford. The Germans are expected to take up their full allocation.

One supporter, Don Harris, 33, from Northampton, said: "We watched the Saturday's game on television, telephoned the box office and then drove down straight here. We slept on the steps all night, only to get this news. I do not think I will come back to Wembley again."

Neil McManus, 29, from

England's victory over Spain on Saturday attracted the largest television audience of Euro 96 so far, with nearly 18 million viewers for the penalty shoot-out in the game's last minutes. It was the second biggest television audience ever for a football match in Britain and the highest ratings for the game since England lost to West Germany on penalties in the World Cup on July 4, 1990. That match attracted 25.21 million viewers.

The BBC and ITV will compete head-on for the Euro 96 semi-finals on Wednesday, with both channels promising full live coverage for the afternoon and evening games. The two channels have alternated their coverage up to now, but neither broadcaster feels that it can afford to miss the remaining matches. BBC's live coverage of Saturday's match attracted an average audience of nearly 15 million, giving it an audience share of 84 per cent.

Television, page 47

Leicester, said: "I think the organisation has been terrible. Somebody should take the responsibility for this."

They received support from David Mellor, the former National Heritage Secretary. Speaking on LWT's *CrossTalk*, he described the situation as a farce, adding: "Football is the only industry where the fans are treated appallingly, even though they are the customers. This is quite wrong."

Steve Baker, 41, a teacher from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, arrived at the ground at 4am and watched as the crowd grew. He said: "The police here are obviously concerned by the crowd. I've got a 13-year-old son who has a once in a lifetime chance to see something like this. I don't want to go back to him and say

Wembley Stadium cocked it up."

Susan Glenn, 43, from Beaconsfield, said that she and her family had not only tried to get tickets in person, but had also used three mobile and two other phones to try to book seats.

Alec McGivern, a Euro 96 spokesman, said that a message had been displayed on the stadium scoreboard during England's quarter-final win over Spain on Saturday, telling the public that tickets would be sold only by telephone.

He said: "The national interest in this event is so colossal that whatever system we had used, someone would have been unhappy. With only 3,000 seats available we decided, for safety and practical

reasons, not to sell them at the box office. It would also have been unfair on people who live in places such as Liverpool and Manchester, to have expected them to travel to London to get seats. This competition is being staged by England, not London."

"I can understand the frustration of the fans but they must understand that there are thousands of other dedicated fans who want to be at Wembley on Wednesday."

More than 1.3 million tickets have been sold for the tournament, which has been plagued by problems in the distribution of seats. Last month, Trevor Phillips resigned as the FA's commercial director to save the governing body from "embarrassment", when several London companies offering hospitality packages were raided by the police.

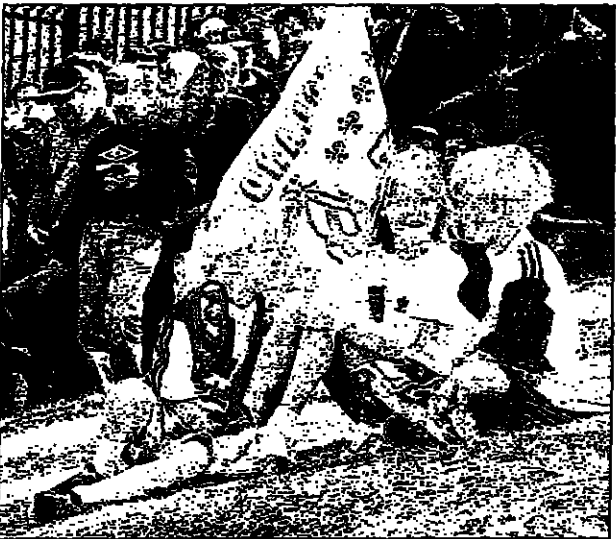
Euro 96 also had to withhold the sale of some seats at Old Trafford because plans to segregate fans had not been completed.

Fighting broke out between Spanish locals and about 50 British holidaymakers on the Costa del Sol after Saturday's match. Bottles and stones were thrown between supporters from both sides on the seafront at Fuengirola.

English and Spanish bar owners agreed that a small number of England fans had started the trouble. The fighting flared outside the London Bar, where a spokesman said: "There were a small group of Spanish teenagers all aged around 13. They were standing opposite the terrace of the pub chanting 'España' over and over. At first the English fans chanted back and were laughing, but then one of them threw a bottle across the road."

A young Spanish girl was very lucky and the bottle just skimmed past her face and smashed on the ground. "After the first missile, a hail of glasses and stones was aimed at the youngsters, who then retaliated. The police arrived and managed to get a few of the English fans in the back of a van, but the real trouble makers got away," he said.

Euro 96, pages 25-30



Children waiting in the sun at Wembley Stadium as supporters queue in vain for semi-final tickets



Tarquin Southwell, 24, has been singled out as this season's best young player

Polo crowds silence the doubters

By GRACE BRADBERRY

THE polo world is celebrating the return of youth and money to the sport after several seasons when it seemed that the game might be losing its pukka image.

Society commentators were sounding the death knell last year when Cartier talked of ending its involvement because the game was no longer considered chic. But yesterday the Alfred Dunhill Queen's Cup final was a sell-out, raising hopes of enduring appeal.

"I saw all the cars arriving, and they were all so smart and shiny again," the author Jilly Cooper said. "The glamour is definitely back."

Lord Patrick Beresford, a leading figure on the polo circuit, said: "There's a lot of money in polo now. There are also a lot more good young British polo players."

Two of the most talented young players, Tarquin Southwell, 24, and Julian Daniels, 21, were on opposing sides at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, yesterday. Mr Southwell has been singled out by insiders, and many female fans, as this season's best young player. He is one of a new breed who have worked their way up through smaller clubs.

In the final Ellerston White defeated Alcatel by eight goals to six. The Queen presented the prizes.

Match report, page 36

Victory is sweet for the common golfer

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

AN EXCLUSIVE golf club whose members include the Duke of Kent has lost the battle to ban commoners from its greens and fairways.

Officials at Huntercombe Golf Club failed to persuade South Oxfordshire District Council to change a bylaw and end a tradition dating back to the 12th century. The council decided unanimously that the club cannot stop local non-members playing golf free on Nuffield Common.

The decision ended an eight-year fight in which the club, which has a ten-year waiting list, was pitched against parish councillors, the local vicar and three quarters of Nuffield village.

Officials of the club, which was built in the 1890s, wanted it to be reserved for the members who pay a £1,000 joining fee and £400 a year membership. The secretary, Lieutenant Colonel Tom Hutchison, a retired Royal Engineers officer, had argued there should be no free golf.

Lucinda Ellis, of the Nuffield Common Conservation Association, said villagers were delighted at the decision. "It was a 100 per cent unanimous vote. Everything will stay as it is — the same as it has been for hundreds of years."

The rector of Nuffield, the Rev John Shearer, 60, who is also a member of the conservation association, said: "I never really thought the club had a chance of changing such a thing."

The club captain, Michael Newell, said the council's decision to do nothing meant members would have to live with the problem of large numbers of golfers taking advantage of the bylaw stating that people in the district had the privilege, not the right, to play golf on the Common.

He said: "Over the years that has been taken to mean golf, but it seems arguable. The problem is not so much that some people are not paying, it is the sheer volume of people coming onto the course not covered by the club's insurance."

"We will just have to live with the decision."

Wives must wait in the wings as players toe the no-party line

By CAROL MIDGLEY

HAVING been denied the luxury of champagne, or even tequila, to toast their quarter-final victory, England's football heroes are doing without another home comfort this week — their wives.

Terry Venables, their coach, has told the squad they must remain within the confines of their Buckinghamshire retreat and abstain from seeing wives, girlfriends and families until their final match is over.

On Saturday night the players, exhausted from the gruelling match against Spain in which they endured 30 minutes of extra time and a penalty shoot-out, were allowed only mineral water and soft drinks.

Although most of their partners took their seats at Wembley — Paul Gascoigne's fiancée Sheryl Kyle arrived at the stadium in a Cadillac with

Bookmakers will have to pay out about £5 million if England win Euro 96. The championship is the biggest betting event in British history and has already cost the bookies dear. They had to pay about £500,000 after England's 2-0 victory over Scotland. One punter will win £65,000 from a £10,000 bet placed at 13/2 if England emerge victorious in the final at Wembley. The home team were yesterday 9/4 to win, down from 8/1 before Euro 96 began.

their baby son Regan — they will not be guests at the Burnham Beeches Hotel, which Venables has transformed into a small fortress to keep out the press. He is desperate to protect them from publicity which may affect their concentration.

Yesterday Liz Pearce, wife of the defender Stuart who kept his nerve to score the penalty that eluded him in the 1990 World Cup, refused an offer of £20,000 from a tabloid newspaper to talk about the nerve-wracking ordeal of watching her husband take the shot.

Pearce said it was the thought of his wife's voice saying, "Oh no, not you again!" if he missed that willed him on.

"She turned it down without batting an eyelid," an FA spokesman said. "Stuart has asked for privacy for all members of his family to be respected and most of the players feel the same way."

Mrs Pearce, 33, a former showjumping groom, watched the match at Wembley but was yesterday with friends in London.

Mr Venables said: "I'd like to be able to let them out of the

hotel to enjoy themselves — they've earned that — but I can't. I think they should be allowed to see their wives, girlfriends and families. But they understand. It's just one more week."

"The real hope is they will be able to do exactly what they want after the final next Sunday."

During the 1996 World Cup, all the players' wives attended the games but were segregated from their men. Famously, for the celebrations after the victory, they were required to attend a separate dinner.

Among the partners waiting patiently in the wings this year are Lainya Shearer, the 25-year-old wife of striker Alan. The couple have been married for five years and have two daughters.

However, Mrs Shearer admits that she is not a great fan of football and watches only when her husband is playing.

Mother dies on drive to graveside

By CAROL MIDGLEY

TWO children were orphaned yesterday when their mother was killed while taking them to visit their father's grave.

Kathleen Leach, 37, a hospital telephone operator, from Frimley, Surrey, died when her car ran out of control and rolled over near Farnborough, Hampshire.

Her children Clare, 9, and Stephen, 7, strapped in the back seat, survived. They were on their way to the Aldershot Military Cemetery to visit the grave of their father, a serving soldier who died from a heart attack two years ago. Mrs Leach was taken to Frimley Park Hospital, where nurses recognised her as a colleague.

Sergeant Nick Harris said: "The family were on their way to visit their father's grave when the accident happened. Now those little kiddies have lost their mum as well. Kathleen came from a big family and relatives are now with the children."

Penfriends across the Atlantic meet at last after 55 years

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

TWO penfriends who forged an enduring relationship for 55 years across the Atlantic met yesterday for the first time.

Eileen Coventry and Mary Scheerschmidt, both 66, started their monthly correspondence between Berkshire and Alberta, Canada, at the beginning of the Second World War, but never even

spoke on the phone. Their letters have taken them through four marriages and seven children between them. During the war, Mrs Scheerschmidt's family sent food parcels to her English friend to help her through the years of rationing.

At Mrs Coventry's cottage near Newbury, the two women explained how their friendship started in 1941 when a friend of Eileen, then

aged 11, wrote to a newspaper in Canada asking for penpals. She was inundated with replies and passed one to Eileen from Mary Carliss, an 11-year-old from Stettler, Alberta. "I remember receiving a letter with a tiny photo of Eileen inside," Mrs Scheerschmidt recalled. "I thought she looked nice and I wrote straight back."

Both women confessed to nerves about their first meeting. "It made me think why on earth didn't we phone each Christmas and birthdays," Mrs Scheerschmidt said. Mrs Coventry said: "Finally meeting was emotional and I had butterflies but we really are the best of friends and we are having a lovely time."

Their husbands, Raymond and Bernard, both retired farmers, are also getting along famously. The two women are planning lots of long walks before Mrs Scheerschmidt's return to Canada on Friday. Mrs Scheerschmidt said: "I want her to take me to all the old haunts that she used to write to me about."



Mary Scheerschmidt, left, and Eileen Coventry

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AD 0355

BMA backs nurse who performed 200 operations

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

PATIENTS have nothing to fear from nurses who operate on them, provided that doctors retain overall responsibility for their care, the British Medical Association said yesterday.

Doctors' leaders defended a nurse who claimed to have carried out more than 200 operations unsupervised but warned others that they must not attempt surgical procedures beyond their competence.

Gillian Erickson, 47, who is a theatre nurse at Clatterbridge Hospital, Wirral, has been performing the operations since undergoing specialist training last year. They mostly involve minor surgery to remove lumps from the hand under local anaesthetic. She also performs investigations of the cervix for signs of cancer after an abnormal cervical smear.

Nurses elsewhere are doing similar work after a 1992 recommendation by the UK Central Council for Nursing that

their role be extended to minor surgery, running clinics and prescribing drugs.

Medical organisations have argued that the practice frees doctors to perform the more complex procedures for which they have been trained. But the BMA gave warning yesterday that nurses undertaking surgical procedures must obtain prior consent from the hospital trust and the patient and keep to strict protocols, and that doctors must retain overall responsibility.

Dr Sandy Macara, chairman of the BMA's council, said on GMTV yesterday: "Why shouldn't nurses carry out simple operative techniques? Midwives have been doing it for a very long time and, after all, delivery is a major operation of a kind. So long as you have doctors available with the necessary specialist skills as required, simple procedures can quite safely be carried out by nurses."

Mrs Erickson, a theatre

nurse for almost 20 years, is reported to have sought permission from hospital managers to take up the scalpel after becoming convinced she could use it better than some junior doctors she assisted. She now draws up her own surgical lists and has been asked by the Wirral Hospital Trust, which manages Clatterbridge Hospital, to help informally in training junior doctors.

Mrs Erickson said: "I had watched these operations being performed over and over again and felt I was more capable of doing them than a junior doctor who had been qualified for only a few months. So in a fit of pique, I wrote a business proposal and sent it to the director of the hospital. I was surprised and pleased when it was accepted."

Mrs Erickson had training in local anaesthetic techniques, the removal of growths and suturing. She claimed to have a low compli-



Gillian Erickson, a theatre nurse for almost 20 years, performs a surgical procedure to remove skin lesions

cations rate "which is proof I am doing well".

Managers at the hospital fully backed Mrs Erickson yesterday and said many nurses in Britain were doing similar work. Paul Holt, chief nurse at Wirral Hospitals Trust, said it enhanced care "because it gives surgeons more time to carry out the more specialised major procedures which only they can perform".

Leading article, page 21

Anti-cancer virus 'promising'

SCIENTISTS using a virus to destroy cancer cells said yesterday that early tests were "very promising" but a cure remained a long way off.

Three men in Glasgow with severe throat cancers have been receiving the new treatment since April. Two more patients will join the trial today as part of clinical trials in Scotland and America. The

work at Glasgow and San Antonio, Texas, originated in 1978, when Dundee scientists discovered a gene protein, p53, which is altered or damaged in most human tumours.

The genetically-engineered virus developed by an American firm, Onyx, can attack cells which have a malfunction of this gene, but leaves others intact.

Research at Sheffield University has found that babies with persistent hyper-insulinaemic hypoglycaemia of infancy — causing overproduction of insulin — have a key protein missing in the pancreas. Screening in the womb could now pinpoint cases for gene therapy, and the discovery may improve understanding of diabetes.

Chemists' remedies fail to cut GP visits

By JEREMY LAURANCE

BRITAIN is becoming a nation of pill poppers but the increasing trend to self-medication is not deterring patients from visiting their GPs.

Spending on medicines available without prescription has increased by more than half since 1990 but the rise has failed to cut GP workloads or the NHS drugs bill.

Professor Alan Maynard, director of the Centre for Health Economics at York University, says there is no evidence that patients are using drugs more effectively, despite spending £1.25 billion each year on medicines sold over the counter.

In *Over the Counter Medicines*, published today by the Social Market Foundation, he says a radical overhaul of primary care is needed, giving pharmacists a greater role, if self-medication is to cut NHS costs. Patients need to be persuaded to seek pharmacists' advice rather than going straight to their GP, and doctors require incentives to cut down prescriptions.

Unpleasant return from exotic travel



MEDICAL BRIEFING

CASES of giardiasis have been reported among members of the Harbour Club in Chelsea. The club, whose most famous member is the Princess of Wales, specialises in keeping the rich and tanned of London in peak physical condition, and not unnaturally is outraged at the suggestion that its water supply might have given its patrons an unpleasant form of intestinal infection.

The club authorities have posted notices explaining that the swimming pools have been drained and cleaned and that health experts have failed to find any source of the infection on the premises.

Unlike many causes of infective diarrhoea, giardiasis affects the small intestine rather than the large bowel. It is caused by a parasite, *Giardia lamblia*, found throughout the world, although it flourishes where sanitation is primitive and the water supply and drains are close.

As the Harbour Club has 3,750 members who pay a £2,500 entrance fee and a £1,200 annual subscription, it would not be surprising if many of its members did not travel to exotic spots at this

time of year and bring back to this country both a deep tan and the parasites of *Giardia lamblia* hanging by suckers to the wall of the duodenum and jejunum. The club so far has 20 cases, a figure that could be described as disturbing but not alarming.

Giardiasis is not only spread by contaminated water supplies but also by direct contact with infected faeces. It is one of the intestinal diseases commonly spread by sexual intercourse. Its spread is assisted by the lack of severe symptoms in two thirds of its victims. The other third has severe symptoms including cramping abdominal pain, nausea, flatulence, loss of appetite, fever and diarrhoea.

Reports that giardiasis does not respond to antibiotics are inaccurate. Flagyl (metronidazole) is effective but has one disadvantage: it can be toxic when alcohol is drunk during the course of treatment. There could be a few sunburned teetotalers among the spectators at Wimbledon and Henley this year.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

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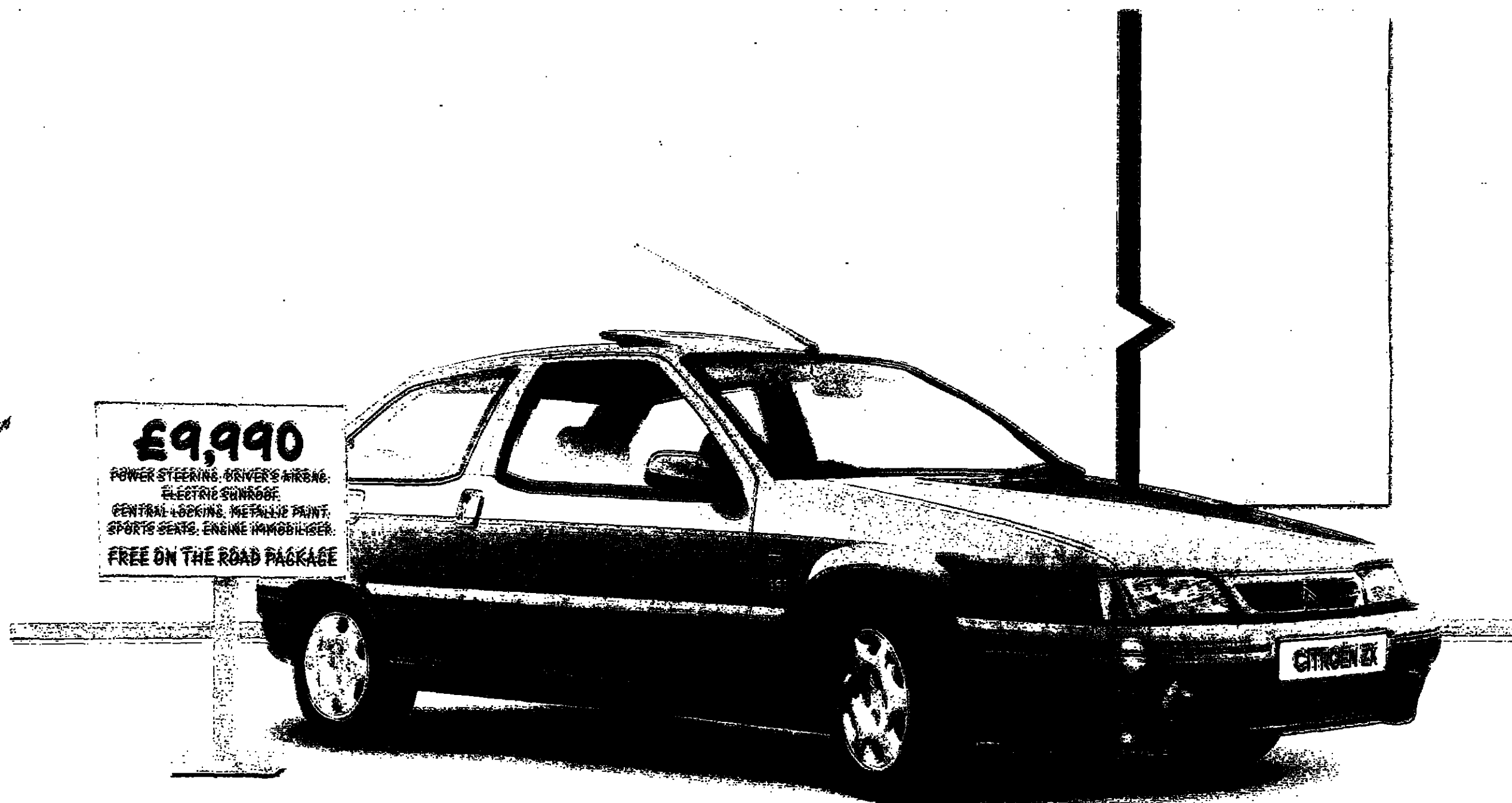
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Chemists' remedies fail to cut GP visits



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Farmer describes horror at seeing the birth of BSE

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE manager of the farm where "mad cow" disease was first identified has spoken publicly for the first time of his horror at watching a mysterious illness in one cow turn into a national disaster.

Eleven years ago, at Plureden Manor Farm near High Halden, Kent, Tom Forsyth and his head dairy stockman first noted the symptoms later to be diagnosed as BSE.

He said: "Looking back over the years since then, horror is the only word to describe my feelings — horror that we had got something that seemed to be out of control."

"We did not know where it was coming from and we did not know how to put it right. Even now the origin of the disease is still not known for certain."

In April 1985 a cow called Jonquil started behaving oddly. The stockman, John Green, was in charge of the herd of 300 Holstein Friesians. Now

retired, he said: "From being a nice quiet cow, she had turned into a nuisance in the milk parlour, acting aggressively towards the other cows. She seemed to hallucinate."

The men's first thought was that Jonquil might be suffering from "grass staggers", which can affect cattle after they are turned out to lush grass in the spring. Caused by a shortage of magnesium in the bloodstream, it is characterised by shivering and staggering, symptoms superficially similar to those of BSE.

The cow did not respond to the usual treatment. Colin Whitaker, the local cattle vet, found she had cystic ovaries. He said: "I treated the ovaries, which got better, but the cow did not. She got worse and was very unsteady on her feet. I thought she might have a brain tumour or abscess."

Eventually Jonquil was put down. For six months or more,

no similar cases appeared. Mr Forsyth hoped that the condition was one of the unexplained curiosities farmers encounter from time to time. Then, at the start of 1986, several more cows went down with identical symptoms.

Mr Forsyth realised he was dealing with something new and frightening. He said: "With our vet, we considered a whole range of possible causes, from lead poisoning to rabies, but nothing made sense."

The decision was taken to alert the Ministry of Agriculture. For the first time, in November 1986, pathologists at the Central Veterinary Laboratory at Weybridge, Surrey, diagnosed an encephalopathy similar to scrapie in sheep. This led to the hypothesis that BSE had been caused by cattle feed containing sheep remains.

Mr Forsyth said: "It was hard to believe that a scrapie-



Tom Forsyth with the Holstein Friesian herd: "We had got something that seemed to be out of control"

like disease could have passed to cattle. Sheep had had scrapie for centuries and had been living together with cattle without any problems. Farmers had been including meat and bone meal in cattle rations since the 1920s.

Since 1986, he has seen "many" cows on his farm go

down with BSE — he declines to give an exact number — among a toll of 160,000 across the nation. As many as 146 of his 300 dairy cows could be lost under the new cull agreed by Britain at the Florence summit. This will target cattle regarded as being at special risk of developing BSE

because they were reared alongside animals that have already died of the disease.

Plureden Manor Farm is still flourishing. It is part of R. Sternberg Farms, an amalgamation of several holdings covering more than 4,000 acres, of which about 3,000 grow arable crops. The busi-

ness is owned by the family of the late Lord Plureden of High Halden, a German-born entrepreneur and refugee from the Nazis, who was a close friend of Sir Harold Wilson. He became a life peer in 1975 and served for a time as chairman of the British Agricultural Export Council.

Sinn Fein man denies escaping from police

By NICHOLAS WATT

GERRY KELLY, the convicted IRA bomber and republican strategist, is to be questioned by the RUC this week after he allegedly escaped from police custody during a protest in Belfast on Friday night.

Mr Kelly, 43, was among 300 nationalists forcibly removed from the route of a loyalist Orange march before it was due to pass through a Roman Catholic area.

Superintendent Michael Brown said that Mr Kelly, who was handcuffed, escaped into the crowd after he was allowed out of the van to speak to officers. An RUC spokesman said yesterday: "Mr Kelly was arrested on suspicion of public order offences."

Mr Kelly said at the weekend that he had not escaped from custody because he had not been arrested. Brandishing his handcuffs outside Sinn Fein headquarters in West Belfast, he claimed he was dragged into the back of the Land Rover as he tried to mediate between the RUC and residents.

Earth moves to save rare orchid

By PAUL WILKINSON

DEVELOPERS who discovered a rare orchid on their construction site are to move the plant's entire surroundings in an effort to save it. Fifty tonnes of soil containing the nutrients and fungi on which the bee orchid thrives are being transported to a safe location.

A fleet of lorries is making the five-mile trip from the building site in Poppleton, near York, to a park close to the city centre where it is hoped the black and yellow *Ophrys apifera* will flourish. The protected species was discovered when construction of a business park began.



The bee orchid: moved with 50 tonnes of soil

Bulldozers accidentally destroyed most of the colony while clearing the land. When environmentalists protested, White Rose Development offered to move the plant's surroundings.

Gordon Thomas, park ranger at the 24-acre St Nicholas Field, in York, will be responsible for care for the orchid in its new position. "We were too late to save the flower in its natural habitat so we are moving what's left to within the city," he said. "It is a very rare flower, particularly in the North of England. It is more commonly found in the warmer South and on the Continent."

"The soil it needs to grow is being moved and over the course of the next few years we will hopefully see it blossom again. It's an innovative venture. It would have been very sad if it had been wiped out in this area."

"The flower needs the right conditions to flourish, including weather, which is one of the reasons it is rare in our part of the country. We are very pleased with the way White Rose has responded to our concerns and requests: this should be an example to other developers. The environment and development can live together if there is mutual respect."

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Housing market recovery conceals dips and booms

By Rachel Kelly
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE recovery in the housing market has not reached all areas. Some towns are recording 10 per cent falls in prices while others report rises of almost a quarter.

Chester is leading the way with a 24 per cent rise in property prices in the first three months of this year, according to the Halifax building society. The biggest fall was recorded in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, where prices have dropped by 11.4 per cent.

Gary Marsh, of the Halifax, said the recovery had no simple geographical split. "The market is doing well in Reading, Berkshire, where prices for semi-detached houses are up by 10.8 per cent, but it is also rising in Bradford, West Yorkshire, where prices are up by 15 per cent. The market is highly localised, depending on economic factors."

Figures from Black Horse Agencies confirm the buoyancy of Reading's market. It now takes on average five weeks to sell a house there, the fastest-selling area in the country.

The Halifax figures confirm the impact of persistently high unemployment in older industrial areas. Scunthorpe, in Lincolnshire, Huddersfield, in West Yorkshire, and Barnsley all have falling house prices, reflecting the decline of the textile, steel and mining industries. Sheffield and Preston have seen prices fall by 3 and 4.3 per cent respectively, the Halifax says.

Malcolm Eyles, of Smith's estate agency in Barnsley, said: "We are still recovering from the closure of pits, and we have not yet attracted new

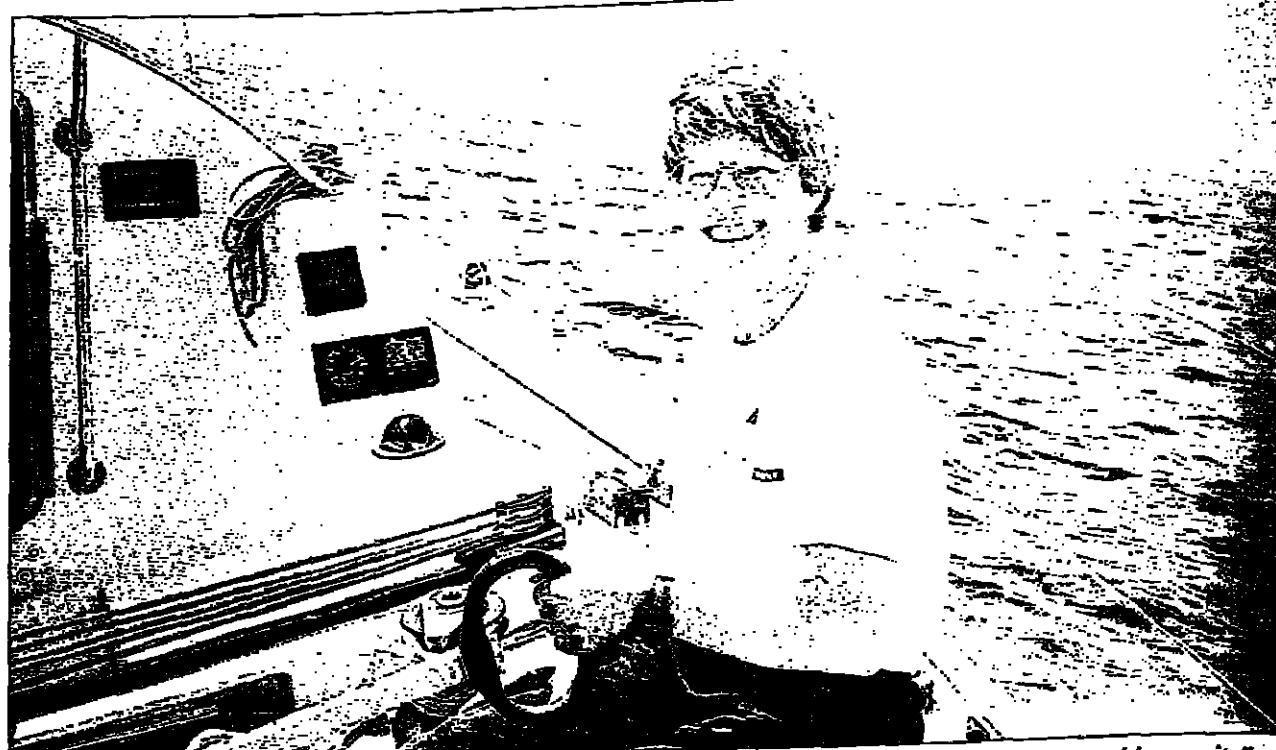
industry sufficiently to make up for the lack of jobs. There is still a lot of uncertainty here about jobs."

Chester's housing market is booming thanks to recent investment and a thriving tourist industry, local estate agents say. Companies at a new business park include the American bank MBNA and Marks & Spencer's financial division.

Gazumping is said to be returning in the area.

The Halifax survey found that London prices were down 2.9 per cent over the period, a figure which masks increases in some areas. Latest figures from Savills show that prime central London property values increased last year by 3.19 per cent, with rises of 4.6 per cent for houses and 2.46 per cent for flats.

The Halifax figures compare prices of a semi-detached house in the first three months of this year with the last three months of 1995, based on mortgage offers made by the Halifax. They only include towns where more than 30 mortgages were granted in the period, and do not cover many towns in the South West.



Mary Falk, of the Queen's solicitors, on Q11. A yachting colleague spoke of her "determination and ingenuity"

Solicitor courts Atlantic dangers

By Edward Gorman
AND ALAN HAMILTON

THIS is not the week for the Queen to fall out with the Inland Revenue. The woman who might be called in to sort out her tax affairs is grappling single-handed with the Atlantic. Mary Falk, 48, a tax law expert and partner at Farrer

and Co, the royal solicitors, is one of six women competing in the Single-handed Transatlantic Yacht Race.

The 58 boats left Plymouth Sound eight days ago and the leaders are expected to cross the finishing line at Newport, Rhode Island, later this week. Unless fate takes an unexpected hand, Miss Falk will not be

leading the field. Although an experienced sailor who is on her third solo Atlantic crossing, her 35ft custom-built boat Q11 is thought unlikely to see the pace. But it will not be for any lack of skill or determination from its sole crew member.

Mike Urwin, technical manager of the Royal Ocean Racing Club, who helped Miss Falk to prepare for the race, said yesterday: "She is physically very small and not so strong, but she makes up for her lack of strength with determination, ingenuity and good preparation of the boat."

Q11, designed by Michael Pocock specifically for short-handed racing, was launched

in 1990. Its water-ballasted monohull is said to be unsinkable. Miss Falk, who lives in Chelsea, took up serious racing in 1982 after years of experience in dinghies.

She notched up the Round Britain race in her first year, the Azores and back the following year, a two-hander across the Atlantic in 1986 and single-handers to America in 1988 and 1992.

At her last attempt she made the 3,000-mile crossing in 21 days, shaving two days off the previous women's record. She came within a hairbreadth of a collision with a large commercial ship outside Newport and was saved only by a last-minute puff of wind.

Campaign to oust Gardiner escalates on eve of local vote

By Alice Thomson, Political Reporter

SIR GEORGE GARDINER'S constituency is poised to oust him, destroying John Major's majority of one. Tory activists in Reigate, Surrey, will vote this week on whether to deselect the man who has been their MP since 1974.

An angry faction wants the 61-year-old Euro-sceptic to go despite his insistence that such a move would prompt an immediate by-election. The campaign him was stepped up at the weekend after 51 opponents circulated a letter attacking him. Last month, the association's executive council voted by 15 to 14 not to re-adopt him and the matter has gone to ordinary members.

The letter has been sent to most of the 1,100 people eligible to take part in the ballot at Reigate Grammar School on Friday evening. The signatories are angry that their MP backed John Redwood in last summer's leadership contest and failed to support the Government over the Maastricht treaty. They believe he is blackmailing them with his threat to resign.

Reigate has rarely heard the sound of dissent. But this thoroughly genteel community has been split by Sir George.

Both factions have been sending letters cajoling party activists to support them.

All agree that Sir George is a hard-working MP. But although Conservative Central Office have sent the party chairman, Brian Mawhinney, to arbitrate, they cannot agree on anything else.

The M25 which cuts through the constituency offers an approximate dividing line in the struggle. To the north are large houses, stables, paddocks, swimming pools and anti-Gardiniers. They are the one-nation Tories who are angry that Sir George

ignored a local vote of 80 per cent backing Mr Major during the leadership campaign.

On the other side of town and in nearby Redhill are the professionals. They are pro-Sir George and right-wing. They are also desperate not to have a by-election that would almost certainly cause the town to go Labour for the first time. Sir George's majority in 1992 was 17,664.

Daniel Kee, an association vice-chairman and Gardiner supporter, said: "Some people just don't know the difference between loyalty and a difference of opinion... Antipathy has grown up because people here are snobbish."

Angela Fraser, county councillor and Surrey's Deputy Lord-Lieutenant, said: "I firmly believe MPs should be loyal to their country and their party. Sir George is always grumbling about Major and openly rants about Europe, but we councillors and party workers are expected to soldier on loyally."

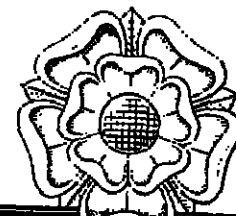
Sir George tries to be philosophical. "I am not threatening anything. The threat is on me. If they pull the rug from under me of course I will walk out," he said.

William Rees-Mogg, page 20



Gardiner: deselection would mean by-election

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Papandreou's death puts reform on party agenda

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

THE death of Andreas Papandreou, the Socialist firebrand of modern Greece, could remove an obstacle to changes in the ruling Socialist party he founded 22 years ago along social democratic lines.

As thousands of Greeks flocked to the capital's main orthodox cathedral to pay homage to Mr Papandreou, who died early yesterday of a heart attack, aged 77, officials said Pasok's executive bureau had decided during an urgent meeting that a four-day party congress starting on Thursday should go ahead as scheduled to elect his successor. Party officials said he died a few hours after putting together the first draft of an address to the 4,000 congress delegates.

Mr Papandreou had been an invalid since late November, when he was hospitalised after kidney failure. His worsening condition had forced him to give up the post of Prime Minister in January. He was reported to be in discomfort after a late Saturday night dinner at his home with political associates. He suffered heart failure about an hour after doctors were called.

A question mark hangs over Mr Papandreou's 41-year-old widow, Mimi, his third wife, who was among the first to arrive at the Athens cathedral as long lines of admirers waited their turn to pass the coffin. A year ago she had initiated an attempt to enter Greece's political arena to continue the Papandreou dynasty. A public uproar over

nude photographs which she had once posed for forced her to drop her plans.

The controversy is believed to have worsened her husband's health. He has been visibly frail since a triple bypass operation in 1988. This year she devoted herself to religious exercises and caring for Mr Papandreou away from the public view.

The coffin bearing his body, draped in a Greek flag, was driven to the cathedral yesterday morning, where it will lie in state for three days. Thousands of followers, some sobbing, braved a heatwave to pay their last respects to the leader who built his career on political salesmanship of the highest order. He maintained an almost mystic hold on Greece's working classes, which is his chief legacy.

Costas Simitis, the Prime Minister who replaced Mr Papandreou last January, flew to Athens from the European Union summit in Florence to attend an emergency Cabinet meeting. He called Mr Papandreou's death "a national loss".

The careful wording of his statement was intentional. For the past two years Mr Simitis has been distancing himself from the old populist firebrand, promoting a cooler, more social democratic image for the Socialist party, Pasok, along Western European lines. In a key party convention scheduled for later this week, Mr Simitis hoped to be elected acting party chairman

to enable him to underpin his prime ministerial job and sweep away the Papandreou influence.

However, he faces a strong challenge from the populist old guard headed by Akis Tsochatzopoulos, the Interior Minister, one of Mr Papandreou's most trusted lieutenants. This week Mr Tsochatzopoulos is expected to exploit the emotional aftermath of the founder's death to seize the party chairmanship.

The struggle of the heirs is the inevitable result of the late leader's style, in which his considerable political talents were channelled solely into a typically Greek pursuit and maintenance of personal political power.

Even as an invalid, dependent on life support systems, Mr Papandreou's ego was undimmed. Two weeks ago he was trying to convince even his personal physician that he

was still, in the doctor's words, "an active political force". He had even expressed a wish to be carried into the party convention to rally what he saw to be a faltering party.

There were claims last night that stress over the forthcoming convention could have brought on the fatal heart attack. "The party and its problems killed him," shouted his half-brother, George Papandreou.

European leaders attending the European summit in Florence praised Mr Papandreou's leadership. John Major said: "Mr Papandreou was a charismatic leader who contributed much to the development of modern Greece. He led the country through a decade of great change in the 1980s."

Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, said Mr Papandreou "profoundly influenced Greek political life over the past 35 years. His fight for democracy during the dictatorship [1967-74] in Greece is known to everyone."

Mesut Yilmaz, the Turkish caretaker Prime Minister, who attended the EU summit as an observer, described Mr Papandreou's death as "a great loss for the Greek people. I express my deepest sympathies. I believe that Mr Papandreou wanted from the bottom of his heart peace between our two countries, despite the rhetoric."

Obituary, page 23



Archbishop Desmond Tutu with his wife Leah at a Cape Town service yesterday marking both his retirement at the end of the month after ten years as the city's Anglican Archbishop and his role in the struggle against apartheid

Nigeria to meet sanctions task force

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

TOM IKIMI, the Nigerian Foreign Minister, today holds a long-delayed meeting in London with a Commonwealth task force urging Nigeria to speed up its promised transition to democracy.

Chief Ikimi, who will head a 17-man delegation, has agreed to the meeting to avert a threatened tightening of Commonwealth sanctions, imposed on Nigeria at last autumn's Commonwealth summit.

The task force, headed by Stan Mudenge, the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe, had originally insisted on seeing General Sani Abacha, head of Nigeria's military government, but all attempts to

set a meeting have been rebuffed. The Commonwealth action group is likely to express concern at the lack of human rights in Nigeria, especially the continued detention of political activists, including Chief Moshood Abiola, the presumed winner of the aborted 1993 election.

Opposition groups have accused government thugs of being responsible for the murder of Chief Abiola's wife Kudirat, who was shot at close range in her car last month. The Nigerian Government disclaimed any connection, expressed condolences and has detained several of the chief's family members in connection with the shooting.

The Commonwealth group is unlikely to recommend tightening sanctions. Britain and European Union members

impose visa restrictions on Nigerians, but Britain has opposed any ban on oil sales on the grounds that this would be ineffective if it was not also observed by America, which buys the bulk of Nigeria's oil.

Labour called last week on Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, for a tougher British stance, saying Britain's reluctance to jeopardise its relations with the Nigerian Government had allowed the Abacha regime to continue along its brutal path.

Western diplomats in Nigeria said the military government may release some detainees to coincide with Mr Ikimi's talks in London.

Tensions rise as Israelis reject Arab land demands

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND MARK HUBAND IN CAIRO

ARAB-ISRAELI tensions prompted by the election of the right-wing Government in Israel increased last night as Israel swiftly rejected the demands of the emergency Arab summit in Cairo that it should continue withdrawing from occupied territory or endanger the peace process.

In a written statement, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, dismissed out of hand the final communiqué issued by the 21 Arab leaders.

In their hard-hitting final declaration, the Arab leaders put aside their own disputes, which had threatened to disrupt the talks, and demanded that Israel should respect Palestinian self-determination, withdraw from southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights and negotiate Palestinian claims to a state with its capital in east Jerusalem.

Going further than expected on the issue of the normalisation of Arab relations with Israel, states that have opened diplomatic links have now said they will review their decisions and decide only when Israel moves forward on the agreement signed at the 1991 Madrid conference. That established the principle of Israel handing over occupied land in return for peace with its Arab neighbours.

The communiqué, and the apparently successful efforts of President Mubarak of

Egypt to prevent a worsening feud between Syria and Jordan spilling over into the conference, is the strongest show of Arab unity since the division wrought by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

President Ben Ali of Tunisia, defending his policy which is now expected to slow down, said after the conference: "Even if the assessment of different states varies, the steps we have taken to normalise our relations with Israel have been intended to push the peace process forward."

A senior Syrian official said: "The idea is that those states that have begun the normalisation process should review their decisions and see whether they are appropriate."

The Cairo communiqué was welcomed warmly in Damascus by the ad hoc organisation

of ten radical Palestinian groups based there which oppose the 1993 peace deal between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

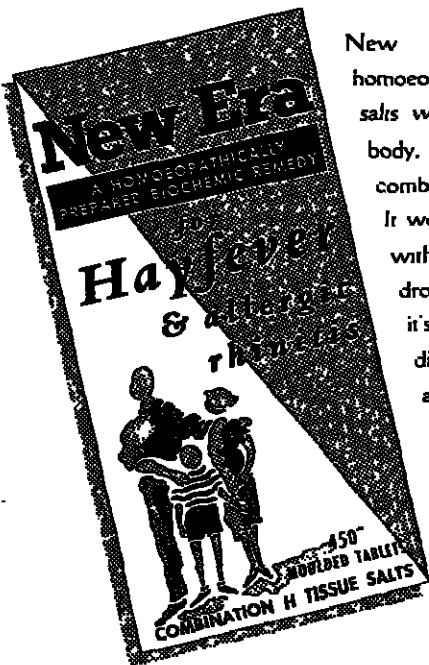
"One-sided demands which harm security do not go together with talks for peace," Mr Netanyahu said after studying the text of the Cairo document. "For the process to continue successfully and fruitfully, such statements must be stopped. That is the most basic demand for talks on coexistence and peace."

The Prime Minister, a former Israeli commando and counter-terrorism expert, added: "Peace is a strategic aim of both Israel and the Arab states. The peace process must be conducted without preconditions. Peace negotiations must be conditioned on security for all peoples of the region."

The new strains imposed on Arab-Israeli relations by the two-day summit and the dismissive Israeli response to it have underlined the urgency of the first trip to the region since the Israeli election by Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, who is due for talks in Jerusalem tomorrow. He has been making determined efforts to try to tone down the hostile response of the Arabs to Mr Netanyahu's policy guidelines, now known to Arabs as "the three Nos".

Jerusalem: Avigdor Kahalani, the Israeli Internal Security Minister, said yesterday that the country should wait at least two generations before even discussing the possibility of giving up the Golan Heights, seized from Syria in 1967 (Christopher Walker writes). He made clear his view that the delay should be imposed even if Syria changed its mind and expressed willingness to normalise ties with Israel.

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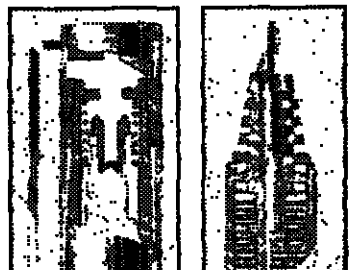
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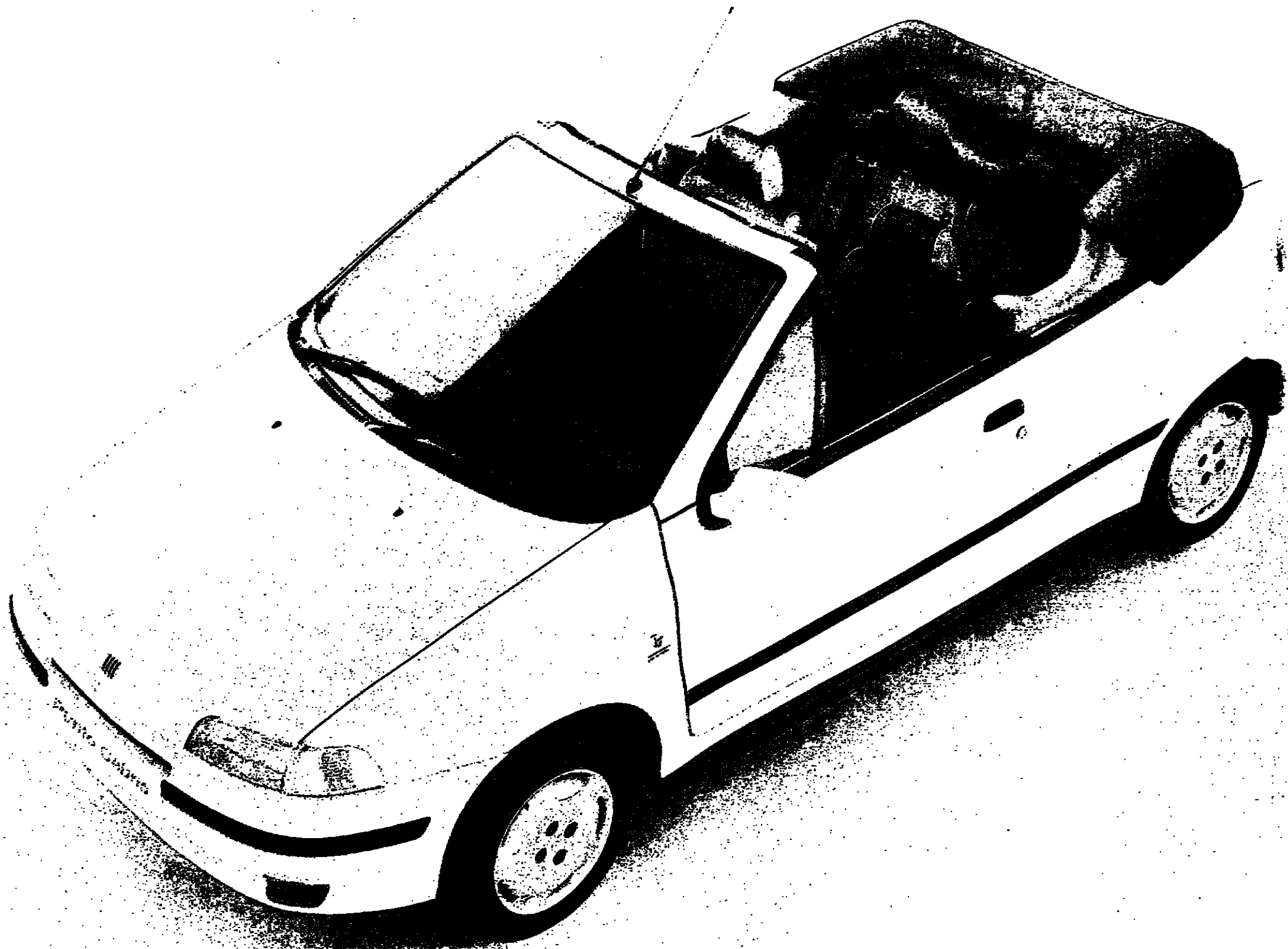
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Ceasefire in beef war leaves EU's battle lines unchanged

AS THE smoke drifted from the last battlefield of the beef war, I remembered Winston Churchill's description of watching Ireland's endless conflict emerge from the cataclysm of a world war which had destroyed the rest of the Continent's way of life.

"The dreary steeples of Fermanagh and Tyrone" appeared again, Churchill said, and the integrity of their quarrel was quite unaltered. And so with the nations of the European Union: the integrity of their struggle about the distribution of power between the states and Brussels is unscathed. John Major



THIS WEEK
IN EUROPE

may not have won much; but in the rest of Europe he has not lost all that much either. The battle lines over "Maastricht II" and the single currency are drawn just

where they were. No continental politician could credibly claim that the British work-to-rule in Brussels revealed to them for the first time that Mr Major can be difficult. Ah, say the savants, but there has been a "hardening" of the mood against Britain. In my experience of a dozen EU summits, no journalist ever had difficulty finding an under-employed prime minister to claim that Britain is going to pay a terrible price down the road for its outrageous obstinacy. "Things like this will be remembered," hissed Goran Persson, the Swedish Prime

Minister. Don't forget that since the Swedes are suspected of being infected by British doubts, Mr Persson has to work extra hard to disown Mr Major. We need to find a way of deconstructing the odious national veto, said Jean-Luc Dehaene of Belgium. Mr Dehaene, let us not for ' was the loser two years ago when Mr Major blocked his nomination to succeed Jacques Delors at the head of the European Commission. M Dehaene uttered the same vague "never again" threats then. There is no doubt that both Mr Major and Britain have

lost sympathy — and thus the benefit of the doubt in a tight corner — over the past six years. But that is the result of three underlying causes. Mr Major's party is split on the single currency, his ministers made plain that they hoped another country would sabotage the Maastricht treaty because they did not want to be caught doing so and because Britain will not start bargaining over amending the Maastricht treaty. Mr Major's European partners think that his "serial vetoes" are merely a symptom of these structural weaknesses. They live in hope that

Tony Blair will not suffer from the same defects. Moans about unilateral British obstruction over beef will fade because the moaners have no practical solution. If majority voting is extended to new fields next year, it is clear that most existing national vetoes will stay. Even the EU, which has staged a fair number of ludicrous pantomimes in its time, would blench at the idea of turning some future summit into a kangaroo court to put a national government on trial for defiant behaviour. Attempts to audit the profit

and loss to British interests and influence in the beef war quickly vanish into arcane speculations. Wandering into the Piazza della Signoria in Florence at the weekend I came upon a sight which you do not see in Britain: a procession in favour of a federal Europe. Policemen from Palermo and postmen from Pistoia marched to the amplified sound of Beethoven. One sign-writer had made a brave attempt to link federalism and everyday worries: "Division-unemployment" said his placard. Only a few hours before

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, had been saying the opposite. Herr Kohl had been slapping down ideas that governments should dip into their pockets for European Commission job creation schemes and insisting that public spending was the business of national governments. "Serial vetoes" are less of a problem than the embarrassingly evident fact that the EU keeps holding serial summits which promise to do something about unemployment but fail to deliver any jobs.

GEORGE BROCK

Britain heading for fresh dispute over shorter work hours

FROM CHARLES BREMMER IN FLORENCE

JOHN MAJOR may have sheathed his sword after the beef war, but the European Union summit in Florence has offered more of a truce than peace in Britain's troubled relations with the Continent and the next battlefields are already on the horizon.

As Ireland takes over the EU presidency, Britain's partners are preparing for fresh collisions over beef, and a whole cauldron of contention over the future of the European Union, including working hours and foreign and justice policies.

The weekend gathering, which ended in an inconclusive anti-climax after Friday's great beef ceasefire, has ordered a special summit in October to advance lagging EU business and instructed Ireland to produce a draft of a new version of the Maastricht treaty at the EU summit in Dublin next December.

This will be the venue for a certain British stand as John Major digs in against all 14 others with his refusal to contemplate any dilution of the national veto in EU affairs.

All the others favour some extension of decision-making by majority and the beef crisis has sparked new eagerness for a "flexible" Europe, allowing a vanguard of core states to move faster to deeper union.

This is code for curbing the scope for obstruction by letting Britain go its own way, formalising the system of "opt-outs" which London has *de facto* already acquired.

In the latest instance of "l'exception Anglaise", as it is called, Britain agreed on Saturday to lift its long-standing block on the creation of Europol, the EU police intelligence agency, with the proviso that it would not submit, like all the others, to the jurisdiction of the European Court in Europol business.

The December summit will also mark the final countdown to monetary union by finishing all the technical preparations. The Prime Minister, who emerged badly

bruised in Europe from the BSE war, seemed on Saturday to be spoiling for a fight over the inter-governmental conference (IGC), as the treaty negotiations are called.

Britain's counter-offensive on the IGC may start within a month if, as expected, the Luxembourg court rejects Britain's appeal against a Brussels directive imposing a maximum 48-hour working week. British officials have hinted that London may defy the directive anyway, on the grounds that it imposes a social measure and Britain has opted out of European social legislation.

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, welcomed what he called the decision to make the IGC "go at full blast" after three months of stagnation. The Germans are eager to forge deeper union through robust common policies in justice, immigration and foreign affairs.

Meanwhile, beef is likely to return as a source of tension soon if the Government keeps Mr Major's promise to apply to the EU Commission for the first stage of easing the ban in September. The vague Florence deal is unlikely to prevent decisions on the ban again being obstructed in the Brussels committees that sparked Britain's blocking campaign.



Kohl: eager to press on with deeper union

Paris lover ended double life of murder charge 'doctor'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A MODERN "Dr Jekyll" who maintained a bogus identity as a medical expert for 20 years will appear in court in eastern France today charged with murdering his wife, children and parents because he was about to be unmasked.

The friends and family of Jean-Claude Romand, 42, believed him to be a brilliant doctor specialising in cardiovascular diseases. "Doctor" Romand had all the trappings of success: a beautiful wife, two children and an elegant home in the town of Prevelin-Moens near the Swiss border and a wealthy

mistress in Paris. In fact, investigators say, M Romand had no real job and turned to murder rather than face exposure. Records show he went no further than the first year of medical school in Lyons, but, rather than admit that to his dating parents and his future wife, a pharmacist, the police say he invented his credentials and the life to go with them. He maintained his lifestyle by borrowing money — his mistress alone is said to have lent him almost a million francs (about £130,000). But his counterfeit existence began to unravel in 1992 when

his mistress demanded her money back.

On January 10, 1993, the Romand family home burst into flames. Inside, firemen found the partly burnt bodies of Florence, his wife, who had been killed by a blow to the head while sedated, and their two children, aged five and seven, who had both been shot. M Romand lay near by, after trying to kill himself with a combination of sleeping pills and petrol. The bodies of M Romand's elderly parents were discovered soon afterwards, shot dead in their home in the Jura.



A farmer protesting at Bordeaux's town hall against the effects of "mad cow" disease on the French beef trade protests his animal from the sun. The 500 protesters wanted to see Alain Juppé, Mayor of Bordeaux and Prime Minister

Pope says too few resisted

FROM REUTERS IN BERLIN

TOO few Roman Catholics stood up against Hitler, the Pope told Germany's Jewish leaders yesterday amid renewed controversy about the Church's role during the Third Reich.

On the last day of his first trip to reunified Germany, the Pope beatified two German priests who died opposing the Nazis, but he dropped segments of a prepared speech on how the Church as a whole had responded. Meeting leaders of Germany's Jewish community, however, he said that not enough of the faithful followed the example of the courageous ones who had dared to defy Hitler.

"Although many priests and lay people opposed this regime of terror, as historians have now shown, and many forms of resistance arose in people's daily lives, they were still too few," he said, according to an official text of his remarks.

Photograph, page 24

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488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000, 1002, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1010, 1012, 1014, 1016, 1018, 1020, 1022, 1024, 1026, 1028, 1030, 1032, 1034, 1036, 1038, 1040, 1042, 1044, 1046, 1048, 1050, 1052, 1054, 1056, 1058, 1060, 1062, 1064, 1066, 1068, 1070, 1072, 1074, 1076, 1078, 1080, 1082, 1084, 1086, 1088, 1090, 1092, 1094, 1096, 1098, 1100, 1102, 1104, 1106, 1108, 1110, 1112, 1114, 1116, 1118, 1120, 1122, 1124, 1126, 1128, 1130, 1132, 1134, 1136, 1138, 1140, 1142, 1144, 1146, 1148, 1150, 1152, 1154, 1156, 1158, 1160, 1162, 1164, 1166, 1168, 1170, 1172, 1174, 1176, 1178, 1180, 1182, 1184, 1186, 1188, 1190, 1192, 1194, 1196, 1198, 1200, 1202, 1204, 1206, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218, 1220, 1222, 1224, 1226, 1228, 1230, 1232, 1234, 1236, 1238, 1240, 1242, 1244, 1246, 1248, 1250, 1252, 1254, 1256, 1258, 1260, 1262, 1264, 1266, 1268, 1270, 1272, 1274, 1276, 1278, 1280, 1282, 1284, 1286, 1288, 1290, 1292, 1294, 1296, 1298, 1300, 1302, 1304, 1306, 1308, 1310, 1312, 1314, 1316, 1318, 1320, 1322, 1324, 1326, 1328, 1330, 1332, 1334, 1336, 1338, 1340, 1342, 1344, 1346, 1348, 1350, 1352, 1354, 1356, 1358, 1360, 1362, 1364, 1366, 1368, 1370, 1372, 1374, 1376, 1378, 1380, 1382, 1384, 1386, 1388, 1390, 1392, 1394, 1396, 1398, 1400, 1402, 1404, 1406, 1408, 1410, 1412, 1414, 1416, 1418, 1420, 1422, 1424, 1426, 1428, 1430, 1432, 1434, 1436, 1438, 1440, 1442, 1444, 1446, 1448, 1450, 1452, 1454, 1456, 1458, 1460, 1462, 1464, 1466, 1468, 1470, 1472, 1474, 1476, 1478, 1480, 1482, 1484, 1486, 1488, 1490, 1492, 1494, 1496, 1498, 1500, 1502, 1504, 1506, 1508, 1510, 1512, 1514, 1516, 1518, 1520, 1522, 1524, 1526, 1528, 1530, 1532, 1534, 1536, 1538, 1540, 1542, 1544, 1546, 1548, 1550, 1552, 1554, 1556, 1558, 1560, 1562, 1564, 1566, 1568, 1570, 1572, 1574, 1576, 1578, 1580, 1582, 1584, 1586, 1588, 1590, 1592, 1594, 1596, 1598, 1600, 1602, 1604, 1606, 1608, 1610, 1612, 1614, 1616, 1618, 1620, 1622, 1624, 1626, 1628, 1630, 1632, 1634, 1636, 1638, 1640, 1642, 1644, 1646, 1648, 1650, 1652, 1654, 1656, 1658, 1660, 1662, 1664, 1666, 1668, 1670, 1672, 1674, 1676, 1678, 1680, 1682, 1684, 1686, 1688, 1690, 1692, 1694, 1696, 1698, 1700, 1702, 1704, 1706, 1708, 1710, 1712, 1714, 1716, 1718, 1720, 1722, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1730, 1732, 1734, 1736, 1738, 1740, 1742, 1744, 1746, 1748, 1750, 1752, 1754, 1756, 1758, 1760, 1762, 1764, 1766, 1768, 1770, 1772, 1774, 1776, 1778, 1780, 1782, 1784, 1786, 1788, 1790, 1792, 1794, 1796, 1798, 1800, 1802, 1804, 1806, 1808, 1810, 1812, 1814, 1816, 1818, 1820, 1822, 1824, 1826, 1828, 1830, 1832, 1834, 1836, 1838, 1840, 1842, 1844, 1846, 1848, 1850, 1852, 1854, 1856, 1858, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1868, 1870, 1872, 1874, 1876, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1884, 1886, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1900, 1902, 1904, 1906, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1940, 1942, 1944, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028, 2030, 2032, 2034, 2036, 2038, 2040, 2042, 2044, 2046, 2048, 2050, 2052, 2054, 2056, 2058, 2060, 2062, 2064, 2066, 2068, 2070, 2072, 2074, 2076, 2078, 2080, 2082, 2084, 2086, 2088, 2090, 2092, 2094, 2096, 2098, 2100, 2102, 2104, 2106, 2108, 2110, 2112, 2114, 2116, 2118, 2120, 2122, 2124, 2126, 2128, 2130, 2132, 2134, 2136, 2138, 2140, 2142, 2144, 2146, 2148, 2150, 2152, 2154, 2156, 2158, 2160, 2162, 2164, 2166, 2168, 2170, 2172, 2174, 2176, 2178, 2180, 2182, 2184, 2186, 2188, 2190, 2192, 2194, 2196, 2198, 2200, 2202, 2204, 2206, 2208, 2210, 2212, 2214, 2216, 2218, 2220, 2222, 2224, 2226, 2228, 2230, 2232, 2234, 2236, 2238, 2240, 2242, 2244, 2246, 2248, 2250, 2252, 2254, 2256, 2258, 2260, 2262, 2264, 2266, 2268, 2270, 2272, 2274, 2276, 2278, 2280, 2282, 2284, 2286, 2288, 2290, 2292, 2294, 2296, 2298, 2300, 2302, 2304, 2306, 2308, 2310, 2312, 2314, 2316, 2318, 2320, 2322, 2324, 2326, 2328, 2330, 2332, 2334, 2336, 2338, 2340, 2342, 2344, 2346, 2348, 2350, 2352, 2354, 2356, 2358, 2360, 2362, 2364, 2366, 2368, 2370, 2372, 2374, 2376, 2378, 2380, 2382, 2384, 2386, 2388, 2390, 2392, 2394, 2396, 2398, 2400, 2402, 2404, 2406, 2408, 2410, 2412, 2414, 2416, 2418, 2420, 2422, 2424, 2426, 2428, 2430, 2432, 2434, 2436, 2438, 2440, 2442, 2444, 2446, 2448, 2450, 2452, 2454, 2456, 2458, 2460, 2462, 2464, 2466, 2468, 2470, 2472, 2474, 2476, 2478, 2480, 2482, 2484, 2486, 2488, 2490, 2492, 2494, 2496, 2498, 2500, 2502, 2504, 2506, 2508, 2510, 2512, 2514, 2516, 2518, 2520, 2522, 2524, 2526, 2528, 2530, 2532, 2534, 2536, 2538, 2540, 2542, 2544, 2546, 2548, 2550, 2552, 2554, 2556, 2558, 2560, 2562, 2564, 2566, 2568, 2570, 2572, 2574, 2576, 2578, 2580, 2582, 2584, 2586, 2588, 2590, 2592, 2594, 2596, 2598, 2600, 2602, 2604, 2606, 2608, 2610, 2612, 2614, 2616, 2618, 2620, 2622, 2624, 2626, 2628, 2630, 2632, 2634, 2636, 2638, 2640, 2642, 2644, 2646, 2648, 2650, 2652, 2654, 2656, 2658, 2660, 2662, 2664, 2666, 2668, 2670, 2672, 2674, 2676, 2678, 2680, 2682, 2684, 2686, 2688, 2690, 2692, 2694, 2696, 2698, 2700, 2702, 2704, 2706, 2708, 2710, 2712, 2714, 2716, 2718, 2720, 2722, 2724, 2726, 2728, 2730, 2732, 2734, 2736, 2738, 2740, 2742, 2744, 2746, 2748, 2750, 2752, 2754, 2756, 2758, 2760, 2762, 2764, 2766, 2768, 2770, 2772, 2774, 2776, 2778, 2780, 2782, 2784, 2786, 2788, 2790, 2792, 2794, 2796, 2798, 2800, 2802, 2804, 2806, 2808, 2810, 2812, 2814, 2816, 2818, 2820, 2822, 2824, 2826, 2828, 2830, 2832, 2834

MONDAY JUNE 24 1996

Yeltsin
secures
support
of rivals

TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT



EURO 96
Rob Hughes sees Germany win but lose Klinsmann PAGE 27
Lynne Truss hears cheers and moans at Wembley PAGE 27
Bobby Robson on penalties, pride and progress PAGE 26



COURTING SUCCESS
Monica Seles seeks the elusive Wimbledon title. Alix Ramsay reports PAGE 34



GAME, SET AND MATCH
Wimbledon's greatest moments PAGE 35



CRICKET
John Woodcock on a debut century at Lord's PAGE 31

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JUNE 24 1996

GERMANY AWAIT ENGLAND IN EURO 96 SEMI-FINAL AT WEMBLEY



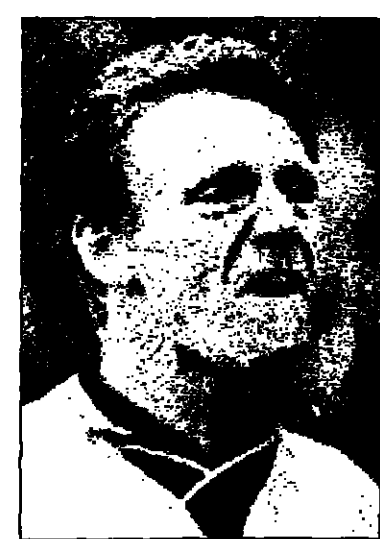
Pearce, having smashed England's third penalty past the Spain goalkeeper, Zubizarreta, turns away from the goal to receive the acclaim of the Wembley crowd. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Pearce faces up to his old demons

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL
CORRESPONDENT

HOW much more can the nation and the nerves take? Such is the changing face, the wild fluctuations in emotions of England's tournament in Euro 96, that very soon we will need psychiatric counselling to soothe the players if not the millions who allow themselves to be hauled through the whole gamut of feelings. The changing face of the event has ranged from Gascoigne's joyful goal a week ago, to the unbridled power of four goals from Shearer and Sheringham against Holland, and on Saturday to the personal drama of Stuart Pearce scoring in the penalty shoot-out against Spain.

On Wednesday, he and England will have to psych themselves up to go one stage further towards the ultimate prize. Germany stand before them again, having beaten Croatia 2-1 at Old Trafford yesterday. The bad news for the Germans and the good news for England is that the cost of victory in a vicious quarter-final seems to have been the loss of Jürgen Klinsmann, with a torn calf, and Fredi Bobic, with a dislocated



After a moment of stunned repose, Pearce advances towards the jubilant supporters, his face a changing mask of emotions as he exhorts them to roar his team home

shoulder. Neither is expected to be fit by Wednesday. Ladbroke's have made England and Germany 15-8 joint favourites to win the tournament.

The odds are longer on Pearce having to exorcise completely the demons of 1990 when he took the fourth penalty in the World Cup semi-final shoot-out. It was saved, England lost, and Pearce has had to live six years under the cloud of Turin.

He insisted on taking penalty No 3 at Wembley on Saturday: his coach, Venables, questioned it for an instant, but Pearce is a mighty intimidating fellow and before 75,000 people in the stadium, 20 million British viewers and a figure approaching one billion around the world, he stepped up for that kick.

And then, his face pinched and almost white with tension, he proved his courage. All right, it was a man, a ball, a

net and a goalkeeper, a moment of sport and not of a soldier's nerve being tested under fire. But the way that the whole tournament is shaping, the manner in which what used to be sport is becoming a whole examination of a nation's pride and well-being, the jingoism that is irrationally attached to this act, Pearce was indeed more than an athlete, he was a man firing for his country.

And when it was over, when

with unwavering eye and unrelenting force, he had thrashed the ball past Andoni Zubizarreta, the Spain goalkeeper, there was an instant when nothing at all registered on Pearce's face.

But the crowd exploded and then relief poured out of him. The veins stood out on his neck, he shouted "come on" repeatedly to the crowd ... and though at 34 he is too old to revoke his nickname, Psycho, look at him in the


pictures: the oldest psycho in town.

Because calmness then prevailed, because David Seaman yet again proved a goalkeeper who could save at least one of four penalties, England defeated Spain. But it was what the American tennis player, Brad Gilbert, once described as "winning ugly". The ugliness was not of Pearce's personal date with destiny, nor of Seaman's acrobatic anticipation, but of the

dreadful lottery that reduces two hours of football to the Russian roulette of penalty kicks. This time the gun was loaded as unfairly as can be all but the smallest minority in the ground cheering the home team, hissing the opponents, trying as England in former sporting times would never have done to win by any means, fair or foul. England won, Pearce atoned, but the Germans may not allow Wednesday to go so far.



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WHY THE TIMES IS BEST EACH DAY FOR THE GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

TUESDAY

CENTRE STAGE

David Miller and Simon Barnes report from Wimbledon's Centre Court

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

ALMOST THERE

Rob Hughes and Bobby Robson watch as Euro 96 nears its climax with sell-out semi-finals at Wembley and Old Trafford

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

THEY THINK IT'S ALL OVER

Three weeks of drama and passion come to the final curtain on Sunday. Lynne Truss prepares for the last act of Euro 96

SPEEDING STARS

Oliver Holt reports on the French Grand Prix. Damon Hill leads the pack

CRICKET'S LONGEST DAY

The first round of the NatWest Trophy: Reports from Alan Lee and Simon Wilde

TO CELEBRATE A GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT, YOUR CHANCE TO WIN TICKETS TO THE WOMEN'S FINAL AT WIMBLEDON - IN THE TIMES TOMORROW

FOOTBALL: DUTCH DISEASE OF INTERNECINE STRIFE STRIKES AGAIN TO RIP HEART FROM TEAM

Seedorf tears sum up Holland misery

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

CLARENCE SEEDORF was inconsolable; he had paid the ultimate penalty. Dany Blind raced to shake the hands of the officials: a touching demonstration of dignity in defeat. And Edwin van der Sar launched his goalkeeping gloves into still-adoring Orange supporters: a final, futile gesture of how Holland had thrown it all away.

Anfield, on Saturday, provided an appropriate venue for confirmation of the Dutch demise. It was where Euro 96 had started for them, in December, when they defeated Ireland 2-0 in a play-off to secure the sixteenth available berth: it was where it was to end, beaten 5-4 by France in a penalty-kick shoot-out.

Many times in the past, Holland had self-destructed before or during the finals of a leading championship. Headstrong players, apparently bigger than the team, the common cause, took on fustering, blundering coaches. Training camps disintegrated into farce, provoking internecine warfare on a grand scale.

This time, though, it would be different... surely. Guus Hiddink, the coach, always calmly in control, cast a paternal arm around his offspring, many of them glaringly inexperienced at such a level, and exuded quiet confidence.

Seedorf, Davids and Jordi Cruyff, the young bucks, would be coaxed and complemented by the worldly Bergkamp, Blind and Ronald de Boer. Though England might pose problems, Scotland and Switzerland would be dismissed and provide easy passage from group A into the

quarter-finals. It never happened, never looked like happening. It was not so much a cataclysmic explosion of self-destruction — Hiddink maintained order, if not total harmony — more a gnawing implosion, culminating in Seedorf's tearful exit at Anfield.

Holland's battering of Scotland at Villa Park, their opening match, had been encouraging. Though held 0-0, it was only the illegal

lending too much of an ear to certain senior squad members, and the soup-to-be AC Milan midfielder, packed off home. Allegations emerged of racial conflict within the multi-cultural Dutch ranks and, though denied, the doubts lingered.

Wembley was worse still, with the demoralising 4-1 defeat by England. Holland had rarely played against such intense or flexible opponents and they collapsed under the pressure. Only Kluyvert's late strike kept them in the tournament, ahead of Scotland, on more goals scored.

The reprieve was only temporary yet, ironically, they produced some of their better moments of the tournament against France. In a stop-start spectacle, more notable for individual rather than collective skills, they comfortably matched the fluid French. Again, though, fate seemed to conspire against them.

When Desailly handled, clearly inside the area, Holland were awarded a free kick outside the area; Cocu's subsequent free kick was deflected behind off a post; when Seedorf burst through to score, Lama's body blocked his shot. All inside the last minutes of normal time.

"Perhaps this came a bit early for us," Bergkamp reflected. "Maybe our lack of experience found us out."

As the *Oranje* poured out of Anfield, they passed fustyposters advertising a pop festival in nearby Stanley Park, at which "Shambolic" were due to perform yesterday. Holland's Euro 96 campaign just about avoided a similar description.



Karembou's support 30
Instant solutions 30

handling action of John Collins that prevented a breakthrough. England had also drawn with the Swiss so little was lost. Yet, perhaps, the portents were already poor. A stumbling initial display against Switzerland at Villa Park, in which Seedorf was taken off before he was sent off, was only partially alleviated by second-half goals from Cruyff and Bergkamp. The thunder then started.

Davids carelessly shared his views of Hiddink with the avaricious Fourth Estate, accusing the Holland coach of



Seedorf turns away in despair after his penalty miss. Photograph: David Davies

Brown backs joint bid to stage World Cup of 2006

CRAIG BROWN, the Scotland manager, yesterday welcomed a suggestion that England and Scotland should make a joint bid to host the 2006 World Cup. Brown was speaking on BBC Radio 5 Live before watching Germany play Croatia in the quarter-finals of Euro 96 at Old Trafford.

He admitted bringing another leading tournament to Britain was an appealing idea after the success of Euro 96 so far. "There has been great success in hosting this tournament and there is great enthusiasm for it," Brown said. "I think that would be an excellent idea, but whether it will come to fruition I don't know."

"Stadia in Scotland have improved dramatically, but I don't know if they are big enough. With Ibrox, Parkhead and a revamped Hampden, we certainly have three in

Glasgow which are suitable but maybe that is too many in one city.

"It would be a good idea. But would both countries both get in as host nations? That might be a problem because both nations want to retain their identity."

Brown, reflecting on England's quarter-final shoot-out win over Spain, said: "England have done well, I wouldn't say they were lucky, but there was an offside goal and the game was even. It is not easy as the home team; there is so much pressure on them with everyone expecting victory."

Now Brown is plotting Scotland's World Cup qualifying campaign in a group with Sweden, Austria, Belarusia, Estonia and Latvia. The first match is in Vienna.

He is hoping the Everton striker, Duncan Ferguson, can end more than 18 months in

the international wilderness and finally fulfil his potential. Ferguson was ruled out of Euro 96 through injury. "With hindsight, Duncan Ferguson would have given us another option," said Brown. "He's a left-sided striker with an aerial threat and, if he starts the season well with Everton, I would love to have him in the World Cup campaign."

Asked about his decision to pick Andy Goram of Rangers ahead of Jim Leighton, the 37-year-old Hibernian goalkeeper, Brown admitted it was a tough decision. "Leaving out Leighton was the hardest job I've done in almost three years as manager. I feel confident Leighton will become the second most capped player in Scottish football history."

Leighton has 74 caps, three behind Alex McLeish, his former Aberdeen team-mate, who won 77 caps and is second behind Kenny Dalglish (102).

Pearce able to lift the Turin shroud

BOBBY ROBSON



Six years ago the scene in the England dressing-room in Turin was probably about as different as it could have been from the one at Wembley after the penalty shoot-out against Spain on Saturday. Stuart Pearce had missed one of the penalties at the end of our World Cup semi-final with Germany and he was inconsolable.

Both he and Chris Waddle, who missed the other one, had their heads in their hands and they were in tears. I could not really talk to them. It was hard to say anything. In the end, because I could not see their faces, I had to be content with patting them on the shoulders and trying to tell them it was just part of football.

I think both of them were experiencing a kind of living death at that point and the moment has probably come back to haunt them many times since. When Pearce scored on Saturday, I saw that expression on his face and I realised it was all the emotion of six years pouring out of him.

I was proud of him. What he did was not easy. Platt scored on Saturday, too, but he was one of the ones who scored in Turin. It is when you have missed that it is difficult. Pearce just showed what we all know, that he has a lot of courage and steel.

I felt sorry for the Spanish. I saw the England team hugging and slapping each other on the back and filled with utter joy and I looked at the Spanish and remembered what it had been like for us, walking off, not looking at the pitch: sadder than a Blackpool donkey.

Perhaps, since we went out that way, English players have realised just how important penalties can be. I think they have practised a bit but it is the mental thing as much as anything: not changing your mind as you run up, the placement and power you need to get into your shots. Bad penalties don't tend to go in any more.

We were helped by the noise, of course: the silence for our penalties and the crescendo of whistling and booing for theirs. I was always confident we would win, partly because of the penalty-takers and partly because of Seaman. He is having an outstanding tournament.

Spain played way above how they performed in their previous two games. They changed their system to play five at the back, they defended well and gave nothing away. Their overriding

object was not to concede a goal but they hit England hard on the break and they surprised me with how progressive they were. They deceived me with their earlier performances.

Sergi, who will be one of my players at Barcelona next year, was taking on McManaman and Neville down the English right and beating them both. He reminded me of Kenny Sansom, except he had a right foot and Sansom only used his for standing in.

We should be feeling a bit fortunate this morning. We did not have anything like the space we had against Holland and every time we made an error, they were on to it. If they had started with the team that finished it might have been even more difficult for us because Sal-

nas was awful before he was substituted and Manjarin had an incredible chance that he messed up completely.

Our star performers were Adams, Southgate and Pearce, who all made crucial interceptions. They made them where it counted, too, not somewhere near the centre circle but deep in the box where you cannot afford a mistake.

It was a close shave but the morale should still be good. We knew we could not win every game 4-1 like we did against the Dutch; the Spanish were bound to keep it tighter. But we are still there and now we have got the Germans, the game that we all want — shades of 1966 and 1990.

We know how they will play, with their shallow five at the back. They will be strong and organised. They do not change so at least what they have will be familiar to us. They will keep at it all game long, never letting up, always fighting, always struggling.

They may still be the favourites but I think we have a very real chance against them. Before they played Italy. I thought Germany were special, but Italy made them look ordinary. We can do the same.



Sergi, a constant threat down the England right, tangles with Neville at Wembley on Saturday

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a) Sheringham b) Gascoigne c) Shearer

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مكتبة الأمل

Coming home with a supporter's flair for invective

The right to abuse your own football players is earned quite quickly in a supporter's career. I find "Are we keeping you up?" I yelled at Gascoigne on Saturday, as for the umpteenth time a free kick turned into a feeble offhand tap.

"What did he do that for?" I asked, time and again.

"What did he do that for? Why is Gascoigne walking?" Sheringham was playing like somebody's granny; it was awful. The ball would fly over his head, and just as it bounced behind him, he'd leap up to head it. Meanwhile, McManaman, thanklessly, would run like stink the length of the field (cheers, cheers), turn around, and

find nobody there. Others passed wildly, as if able to see off rabbits in football shorts invisible to the rest of us. "What did he do that for?" I asked. "What did he do that for?" And the question was never purely rhetorical. I really wanted to know.

'Might as well pass to the cat'

In all too short a time, I have learnt the hurt, bewildered running, mutter of complaint, the football supporter's whine of betrayal. The honeymoon did not last long. "Passing to Gascoigne? You might as well dig your own grave and jump in it, son. You might as well pass it to the cat. What did he do that for?" And so it continued on Saturday until the penalty win surprisingly put us out of our misery; at which point we stood on the seats, whooped for joy and relief, and were incredibly glad it was over.

Less printable outbursts were all around in Block 144 at Wembley. I assure you; and the gentlest was a poignant "This is the worst 35 quid I've ever spent", half-way through the wretched golden goal time. The quarter-final crowd at Wembley on Saturday was rightly described as tremendous — "Football's coming home, it's coming home, it's coming home, it's COMING" we sang with fervour; and personally I risked the considerable danger of having my eye put out by a flag. But talk about flogging a dead horse: flogging was too good for it, actually.

Fortunately, the BBC analysis in the evening made the English match-play look better than it was. The highlights were rightly brief, yet they included more English shots at goal than I had remembered. Gascoigne looked quite handy in these snippets, whereas at the time he resembled a victim of amnesia

LYNNE TRUSS



KICKING & SCREAMING

who had wandered on to the pitch in an unfamiliar shirt marked 8. But one's opinions are coloured by emotion and prejudice, of course. A bloke nearby disliked Platt so

much (why? why?) that he virtually spat on the ground whenever Platt got possession. Whereas it seemed to me that Platt was a rock. "Good, here comes Platt," I would say. And when he got possession, "Just like Platt. Good man."

The Euro 96 paper was as invaluable as ever, but it also caused a crisis of conscience. At 15.36 it told me the second Spanish off-side goal was in fact perfectly all right. The weight of this secret knowledge was awful; the only time I felt anything like it was knowing the result of the Booker Prize before sitting down to eat dinner with a nervous shortlisted author (who hadn't won).

How terrible that Spain had been ripped off; that the goddesses of the game were wrong throughout. In the eyes of God, Spain had already won the match. Should I tell anybody? I swivelled my eyes while I made my mind up. Well, perhaps best not to mention it to

anyone hanging a drum and shouting "Es-pan-ya" with a lisp. I'm not sure I would like to meet the person who writes the paper messages. When England finally won the penalty shoot-out, he reported the win with a total of 22 exclamation marks, which shows

how much he cares, but also which side he's on. You may remember he said "It makes you proud to be British" on the night Scotland was knocked out, too — which was pretty tactless in retrospect. Personally, I never expected to find such naked chauvinism in my own soul ("England!"), and am still appalled by the unfair hissing and booing of Spaniards attempting a penalty shot. When Spanish substitutes sprinted past our seats on Saturday, innocently warming their hamstrings, they were greeted

with hostile heckles and plonker-gestures (you know the one I mean).

Yet I still want England to do well. I want them to remember they are a team, and that moreover we don't sing all this exhorting stuff exclusively for our own benefit.

A kindly reader has written to warn me that all international football tournaments fall into two halves — the half with England in it, and the half when you have to find excitement somewhere else. Thank you for that. I knew it in my heart. But now that I have sung *You'll Never Walk Alone* and *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life* in a forest of plastic Snickers hats (free England hats with "Snickers" on), how can I stop yelling at Gascoigne — to wake up, wake up, for heaven's sake?

'Flogging was too good for it'

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FOOTBALL: INSPIRATIONAL GERMANY CAPTAIN LIMPS OUT OF BATTLE IN TEARS WHILE CROATIA BOW OUT OF CHAMPIONSHIP IN DISGRACE

Klinsmann may miss Wembley showdown

Germany 2
Croatia 1

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

SO, AS almost everyone expected, England's semi-final opponents at Wembley on Wednesday are the mighty Germany. Except that, on the performance in their quarter-final against Croatia and their previous game when they were dominated by Italy, these are no mighty Germans. Indeed, there is a struggle through frailty of both mind and body that makes them look an opposition England can cope with.

That said, never rule out a German. The portents for Wednesday did look bright in

derfully gifted, were unfilled. In the first six minutes Sammer and Klinsmann, the two German players of true quality, had been booked for fouls, but that was a prelude to some atrocious indiscipline from Croatia. They, above all nations, would scorn the crass suggestion that sport could ever be a substitute for war.

Yet, they played it, or rather they fought it, yesterday with such disdain for the rule book, such violence unbecoming, that only the most appalling ineptitude and complacency by Leif Sundell, the Swedish referee, could have allowed them to finish the 90 minutes with only Igor Stimac, the Derby County defender, sent off for two blatant and foolish fouls.

What got into the Croats? They can play, they have technical ability at second to none in this European championship. And yet, perhaps because they played in fear, they were wretchedly intemperate. Croatia had played Germany three times during the last war and they had been taken to pieces 5-1, 2-0 and 5-1 again. Miroslav Blazevic, the Croatia coach who will have remembered those games, said all along that he relished playing Germany.

He will not have relished the first sign of madness from his players. Nikola Jerkan, the sweeper, was running wide of the goal with his opposite number, Sammer when, for no rational reason, Jerkan handled the ball. From the penalty spot, Klinsmann struck the ball low, hard and right, well out of reach of Ladice, the goalkeeper.

Germany, too, were uncertain in defence. Helmer and Reuter were both trying to mask injuries, both having to play because Strunz was ineligible after being sent off against Italy, and Kohler was one of two Germans who had to fly home for operations. As Croatia counter-attacked, sometimes swift and sure, sometimes with mind detached from body, the German organisation seemed a travesty of what we expect from that country.

It was a surprise that it took until the 50th minute for Croatia to equalise. Davor Suker, who was later to miss two chances to head goals, directing them both at Köpke,



Klinsmann's hopes of facing England at Wembley suffer a severe blow as he leaves the field injured yesterday

nevertheless capitalised on an amateur error from Freund, the substitute for Klinsmann. Worse, when Ziege and Bobic had collided going for the same ball and lay on the ground, Stamen Bilic, the West Ham United defender, first prodded Ziege on the ground, then kicked him forcefully as he lay. The referee was a foot away, indeed he was pushing Bilic in the chest, yet he dared take no action. Similarly this apology for an arbiter ignored a kick at Ziege much later in the action by Stanic.

Croatia destroyed before our eyes the romantic image some had built of them. They were players who had been excused national duty at a time of war because of their importance as ambassadors to their country, players who

have been full-time professionals in Europe's wealthiest clubs for far too long to even try to excuse their behaviour as being emotionally out of their depth.

He brings to the word *libero*

the fullest sense of expression: he was head and shoulders above the fiddly nonsense that was going on all around, and was caught up, it would seem, with their own myths.

This was spelt out for us English with wondrous clarity with the splendid Klinsmann's year at Tottenham. Coming to England with a reputation as football's second greatest cheat, he soon established himself as a nation-wide love object by virtue of his unassuming excellence, his sense of personal style and his — really rather novel — quality of grownupness.

True, Suker's game for Croatia against Denmark still remains the best individual performance of the tourna-

ment so far. The question of whether he was better than Klinsmann was fully debated before the match, and Suker, for one, took it with great seriousness. In fact, he sought to outdo the Klinsmann of disfiguring legend by diving, stumbling, and attempting to con the referee.

In short, he lost the plot, and so did the rest of the team. They conceded their penalty to an over-excited bit of handball, and subsequently got caught up in the individual battles of foul and counter-foul, rather than in shared objective. And that was how Stimac managed to get himself sent off for his second bookable offence.

You never see a German team lose the plot, not even in *extremis*, as they were against Italy in their last match. Perhaps that is because the plot is not spectacularly complex. The fact is that all the truly eye-catching players on view yesterday were wearing the best shirt of the tournament — the red and white checker-board of Croatia. But they lacked the composure and organisation to make that superiority — a superiority in wit and invention — count in the final result.

The Germans had bags of composure and organisation. Not a great deal else, it must be said. But excellence abounded in such players who provided, above all, stability, rallied as they were by the magnificent Sammer.

That said, this is not the most awe-inspiring German side we have ever seen. It lacks that implacable look that has always characterised the best of them. It has, instead, a very great deal of resilience. They might need it all against England on Wednesday; and it might indeed be enough.

I suppose we must now prepare ourselves for a national orgy of anti-German jokes, hijacked sunbeds, little moustaches and don't mention the War.

Still, it is worth noting that it was not the German fans who gave fascist salutes during their national anthem. That was a few Croats — and at Wembley, a few English, of course. Let us make our jokes with due care and attention.

Germany offer usual answer to question of stereotypes

By SIMON BARNES

This weekend a blonde and charming but somewhat humourless German lady, already confirming my views on national stereotypes, asked me to fill in a questionnaire. It was very long and very complex, filled with unanswerable questions about the roles of sport and the sportsman in the modern world.

It was amusing, and had a strong element of self-parody, but it never quite became quite as hilarious. This was, in the end, something of a disappointment.

In the same way, German football teams never quite slide into self-parody. Certainly it would be amusing to see them as a series of blond machines, mindlessly fulfilling their coaches' aspirations, men without flair or thought or creativity.

It is still true, and surely it always must be true, that a German team inspires in outsiders respect rather than affection, admiration rather than awe. No Englishman feels about the Germans as he does about the Brazilians; and many times an Italian team beats an English club side, and we walk away filled with delight at the style, the beauty, the class.

This is not the case with any German team, and certainly not the side we saw beat Croatia 2-1 at Old Trafford yesterday. The thing is that Germans play their football too much like us — like us, it must be said, only, in the main, and barring the odd miracle, better.

We see an element of coldness, a lack of passion, an over-emphasis on organisation. But really, most German teams are like our own — but grown up. The players are more responsible, more secure in themselves — less caught up, it would seem, with their own myths.

This was spelt out for us English with wondrous clarity with the splendid Klinsmann's year at Tottenham. Coming to England with a reputation as football's second greatest cheat, he soon established himself as a nation-wide love object by virtue of his unassuming excellence, his sense of personal style and his — really rather novel — quality of grownupness.

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Injuries to strikers cast shadow over victory

Peter Ball hears Germany's coach bemoan the probable loss of two strikers for Wembley semi-final with England

GERMANY are limping rather than marching towards their semi-final with England on Wednesday. Yesterday's win over Croatia came at a high cost, with both Jürgen Klinsmann, their captain and main striker, and his partner Fredi Bobic off the field and out of the game by half-time.

Klinsmann suffered a torn calf muscle, the victim of some cruel Croatian tackling. Bobic, a dislocated shoulder as he fell heavily. Both are almost certainly out of the game at Wembley on Wednesday.

"England can be looking forward to this game, because neither are likely to play on Wednesday," Bert Vogts, Germany's coach, said.

Germany had already been reduced to 20 players with the earlier loss of Kohler and Basler. They will now be down to 18 for the semi-final — and presumably for the final if

they should overcome England.

"I've torn a muscle, it's as simple and as bad as that," Klinsmann said after he had limped to the podium in the press conference. "It's the first time I've ever suffered an injury like that in my career, so I've no personal experience to go on. But the general wisdom is that these things take around 10 days to mend."

Klinsmann's disappointment was visible; Bobic was unable to reveal his, as he was on his way to hospital for x-rays. But perhaps the only surprise was that there were not more German wounded as Croatia began physically and then got worse after the dismissal of Stimac was followed

quickly by Germany's second, winning goal.

"I couldn't say it was the most physical game of the tournament, but it was certainly above average," Matthias Sammer, who had scored that goal, said. "But when we got onto the pitch we knew what was coming."

Perhaps no one had told Klinsmann. "It all happened in the opening moments. I got some bad kicks and hits on my leg," Klinsmann said. "I went to the touchline for treatment, but when I tried to come back onto the field I couldn't even stand on the leg."

Klinsmann at least took pride in his team's performance. "We are glad to have survived a very tough game,

and the team is looking forward to going to Wembley," he said. "We know we didn't play as well as we could, but the team has done very well to take in its stride the loss of Basler and Kohler and so many yellow cards."

"We have overcome all these things and maybe this will be the same as 1990. Then we only just scraped by against Czechoslovakia with a mediocre performance, but we went on to become world champions."

For their part Croatia were left bemoaning their luck, and complaining about the referee, particularly feeling that they should also have had a penalty. "It is difficult to accept defeat when it happens this

way," Zvonimir Boban said sourly. "We felt we were the better team all the way until the sending off of Stimac."

Bilic, who kicked Ziege when the German was on the ground after the mid-air collision which ended Bobic's involvement, said: "It was the heart of the moment thing and I apologised straight away." But the referee's failure to deal with that incident was only one instance of a performance which had both sides complaining about the refereeing.

Sympathy for Croatia was limited, however, for as Vogts complained: "They have a way of playing very provocatively." Nevertheless, the Germans prevailed and now move forward to face England. "The England team has gone from strength to strength through the tournament and they have to be admired for that," Vogts said.



Bilic, of Croatia, appears to kick the prostrate Ziege, of Germany

FOOTBALL: HOME ADVANTAGE PROVEN TO BE AN INVALUABLE ALLY AS HOSTS RIDE THEIR LUCK INTO THE LAST FOUR

England on the crest of Wembley wave

ROB HUGHES



Football Correspondent

Spain 0
England 0
(aet; England win 4-2 on pens)

THOSE of us who forecast that the ceiling of England's potential was the semi-finals had better begin our revision. Once a team rolls with the luck, the layer upon layer of resolve and the partiality of refereeing decisions that all conspired to help them to beat Spain at Wembley on Saturday, the sky surely has to be the limit.

Let any rival come to the citadel of English football, for the odds seem so stacked against opponents that it is hard to say with conviction that the best team will necessarily win a match there unless the best team turns out to be England.

On Saturday, despite the hollow-ness of the scoreline after two hours, the match had more cut and thrust than can be found in a bullring. The Spaniards put up an almighty blockade. Nadal and Abeldar, at centre back, were men not merely of huge physique but, in Nadal's case, of an ability to move and toy with a football that made him far better than the picture painted of him based on his red-card image.

In front of them, the blockade before the blockade. Hierro would have been the man of the match had it not been for the penalty shootout, when his kick, Spain's first, struck the crossbar and left it quivering above Seaman's head as a moving symbol of what taking on the English is all about.

England deserved some kind of reward for their own absolute refusal to surrender to what appeared a better team, for courage that, in the captain, Tony Adams, was extreme. He, quite visibly, had had enough after 60, let alone 120 minutes of this fierce attrition. His knee, never granted reasonable time to recuperate after surgery in January, gives him grief; he appeared at times to be walking barefoot on a bed of nettles and yet when, deep into extra time, Kiko appeared to be through on the England goal, there was the lionheart Adams diving in with a tackle sweetly timed.

The tackling was not always that. It took precisely 30 seconds for Abeldar, with a violent assault on the heels of Shearer, to be shown the yellow card. The crowd bawled for it — the French referee, Marc Batta, was to become a clear favourite of theirs — and thereafter he deprived Spain of a perfectly



Seaman dives to block Nadal's penalty, giving England an unassailable 4-2 lead in the shoot-out and unleashing a tempest of emotion at Wembley on Saturday

good goal by Salinas, ruled offside, and denied them penalties when Gascoigne fouled in the area and again when Adams kicked at the back of Caminero.

After the first of those two incidents, M Batta rubbed salt into the Spanish wound by taking the name of Alfonso, for allegedly diving. One had seen this official do the same thing to Vlaovic, of Croatia, when "ordered" to do so by Schmeichel, the Denmark goalkeeper. How are the players to behave when referees such as this are chosen to run the show?

Yet England, initially with four square at the back and with Platt attempting to emulate the tackles and solidity of Ince in front of that

defence, were always competitive. They too missed opportunities: Shearer scooping the ball up over the bar from a matter of yards and Sheringham failing to put boot to ball with the goal at his mercy. England also had McManaman, in the second half at least, running tenaciously at the heart of this wounding Spanish rearguard, and they had Seaman, a goalkeeper who has distinguished himself in all four games. How phlegmatic the man is, making alarming moments appear as soothing as a fishing expedition with Gascoigne.

His save from Manjarin, a tackle outside his penalty area rather than an authentic goalkeeping manoeuvre, could, alone, have

spared England blushes in this match. Zubizarreta, playing for the 110th time for Spain, produced equal anticipation and reflexes, with a fine deflection from Shearer early on, and, later, in calmly palming the ball over the bar after Adams had risen to a free kick.

As Wednesday approaches, there are three areas of concern. First, that Gary Neville, that fine Manchester United defender, will not be there, his recklessness in the tackle having brought a second yellow card in three matches.

It is typical of the modern professional that the England players should suggest that Sergi, the opponent tackled so late and so high by Neville, had accustomed

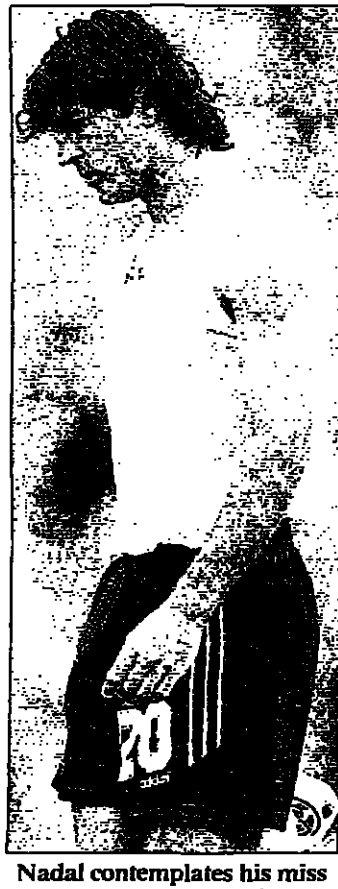
the foul. For the whole of the second half and for extra time, Sergi, quite the most accomplished wing back on the field, was heckled unmercifully by spectators duped by the England players.

Then there is Gascoigne: or England hope there is. Lying increasingly deep, willing but not expert in covering and tackling, he injured himself 23 minutes into extra time. His tackle, mistimed and inappropriate, damaged his right ankle and left him hobbling with severe bruising, close to those famous tears.

Gascoigne and Wembley, a dreadful memory of his self-wounding antics of the past, may yet deprive England of the one truly inspirational talent they possess. The time between now and then will be crucial for Gascoigne and the physiotherapist.

SPAIN (4-4-1-1): Zubizarreta (Valencia) — A Belous (Gazprom), M Nadal (Barcelona), R Abeldar (Real Madrid), sub: J Lopez, Mico (Mallorca), F Abeldar (Barcelona) — J Manjarin (Gazprom), La Cuesta (sub: J Caminero), Mico (Mallorca), F Hierro (Real Madrid), G Amor (Barcelona), B Sergi (Barcelona) — F Kiko (Atletico Madrid) — J Salinas (Sporting Gijon), sub: P Alfonso, Boris Saville, 46.

ENGLAND (4-4-1-1): D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester United), A Adams (Arsenal), S Southgate (Aston Villa), S Pearce (Sheff Wed), sub: S McManaman (Liverpool), sub: R Fowler (Liverpool), 109, P Platt (Aston Villa), P Gascoigne (Rangers), D Sheringham (Tottenham Hotspur), sub: S Stone (Nottingham Forest), 109, E Shearer (Ipswich Town), sub: N Barmby (Middlesbrough), 109 — A Shearer (Blackburn Rovers) — M Batta (France)



Nadal contemplates his miss

Venables prepares to have the final say

THE message from the England dressing-room, Gary Neville said, after the win on Saturday against Spain, was "two to go" and Terry Venables did not alter it at Bisham Abbey yesterday (Oliver Holt writes). "At the risk of putting a damper on all this," the England coach said, "we just want to go the whole way now."

buoyed by news that neither Paul Gascoigne's bruised ankle, Teddy Sheringham's dead leg nor Tony Adams's knee injury should

threaten their participation in the semi-final with Germany on Wednesday. Venables predicted a "titanic struggle. They will be very hard to shift. They are a very, very mobile team."

Venables said that Jamie Redknapp, the Liverpool midfielder who played so well against Scotland, may come into the reckoning for the game because of his swift recovery from a twisted ankle. He would not elaborate on his options for replacing the sus-

pended Neville at right back but it is thought likely his brother, Philip, will deputise.

"It was a different kind of game on Saturday," Venables said. "Holland tried to outplay us but the Spanish came to stop us playing. We have got to fight until we drop when that happens, and that is what we did. I was proud of their passion, and the professionalism of the penalty takers was outstanding. David Seaman showed that he is a great goalkeeper."

Neville shows maturity far beyond tender years

BY OLIVER HOLT

THE tears of Paul Gascoigne, in Turin in 1990, set a fearsome standard for England players facing suspension to live up to, but, when the test came and the second yellow card of the tournament was flourished, Gary Neville, a young man who has known few reverses in his short but outstandingly successful career, failed it miserably.

Neville, 21, the Manchester United defender who was booked for a late lunge on Sergi early in the second half, played more steadily after the caution than before it even though he knew he was condemned to missing the semi-final. "I have got to get on with it," Neville said afterwards. "The boss has just said there is still the final to aim for and I know I have to be a supporter on Wednesday."

"The main thing is that England have got through. It's not about Gary Neville, Sergi overreacted when I tackled him, but it was a booking. I just kept playing as well as I could. We were playing for 50 million people and I could not let them down because of my disappointment."

After a match that highlighted the individual pace and precision-skills of four penalty-takers and

David Seaman, Tony Adams, the team captain, was quick to follow Neville's example of subjugation to the team, an ethic that Terry Venables, the coach, has drummed into his players.

"You have not got me yet," he smiled, when someone asked him if he had just played better than ever before for England. "You don't understand me. Obviously I want to play well, but it is about the team performance and the team winning, and that is all that matters."

Adams was confirmed as captain yesterday. "It was no big deal," he said. "The manager told me last Thursday and I have just got on with it, and it was no big deal for any of the parties concerned. We are all professionals and it is just part of the job."

David Platt was officially squad captain going into the tournament, but Adams has led the team out in all four games. Venables said: "I don't need to say too much about it, but I just felt that, for the consistency of the tournament, it was the right decision to take."

"We are very lucky in that we have five or six captain-type players in the squad and you need those type of strong characters in a tournament such as this."

Mrs Pearce inspires penalty pay-off

Andrew Longmore on how an England player's wife helped to exorcise a ghost of the World Cup

IN the moment of victory, only one England player acted with the dignity and humility of a victor and he was not the obvious candidate. When David Seaman saved Nadal's penalty to take England into the semi-finals, Stuart Pearce did not join in the hugging and kissing, as he had every evening to do. Instead, he sought out Fernando Hierro, whose early missed penalty prompted feelings that Pearce knew only too well. The tall, tireless, Spanish workhorse was sitting disconsolately in the centre circle, drinking in the awfulness of defeat and trying desperately to rationalise his part in it. His colleagues had melted away and Hierro was alone.

Pearce's handshake, born of robust recognition of a fellow traveller rather than any sentimental consolation for the loser, went largely unnoticed in the chaos of celebration. But for those of us who have held Pearce's old-fashioned virtues in relative contempt these past few years, who have seen in the jackhammer thighs, unthinking hoof and macho spirit the epitome of all that is wrong in English football, it prompted a true sense of remorse. Pearce had just exorcised his ghost and he had no wish to see someone else inherit them, whatever their nationality.

At that moment the matter of winning and losing, which had reached a spectacular crescendo, was secondary to the acknowledgement of the ten courageous men who had volunteered to be vilified forever. That night Chris Waddle, the other "villain" of the 1990 World Cup, committed an act of bravery almost the equal of Pearce's. He admitted on national television that he would not have had the nerve to take another. The experience had scarred him for life. Pearce had been similarly scarred, but when Terry Venables tentatively explored the possibility of penalties in training the day before the match, his full back stepped forward without hesitation. Venables was still not sure about it as he stepped on to the field to nominate his five. Shearer nodded first, then Platt and Fowler.

"I had pencilled Stuart in, but I wondered whether I should put him in or not after what happened," the England coach said. "It was stupid of me even to doubt it. He was straight up to me: 'I'll take No 3'."

Pearce, never the most articulate of men, talked later of what he had gone through since his penalty flew straight at Ilgnor on that glorious and miserable night in Turin six

years ago. The despair was crystallised in the question his wife, Liz, once put to him. "I could hear her words burning in my ear. She was sitting in the kitchen and she said: 'Why is it always you who misses penalties?' I said: 'Maybe because I'm always the guy that takes them'."

Once the formalities were over, Pearce's clenched-fist salute to the stand was directed straight at Liz. Does that answer your question? Young Clarence Seedorf, whose miss cost Holland a place in the semi-finals, should take heart from Pearce's joyous settling of scores.

Whether penalties should be the means of solving the Rubik's cube of knockout football is more open to question. The drama is compelling, simple and decisive and on Saturday there was something appropriate in the sudden insistence on individual glory after 120 minutes dedicated to the humdrum virtues of teamwork. Penalties test nerve and reveal character with astonishing clarity, but they make a mockery of team effort. Winning games on penalties is unsatisfactory enough, losing them brutal.

The only place to be at such times is in goal. The goalkeeper has nothing to lose. He cannot miss. He can only be the hero. Even David Seaman admitted as much. "I'd rather be facing them than taking them," he said. The takers walk the tightrope. Like a golfer faced with a five-foot putt to win the Open, a simple everyday act becomes invested with the experience of a lifetime. It can look easy or impossibly difficult: the goal the size of a hangar door or a keyhole, the goalkeeper a midge or a giant. Peter Beardsley, not normally a penalty-taker, volunteered to take one against Germany in the 1990 semi-final because, having played so well, missing was out of the question.

Shearer, four goals in four games. Fowler, a confident young man. Platt, an experienced professional. Gascoigne, nervous. And Pearce, a man possessed by his own demons. A play within a play, rehearsals irrelevant. Shearer's confident opening penalty set the tone. Hierro's miss compounded the overwhelming belief that 75,000 people could not be wrong. But when Pearce strode six paces to thump the ball crisply past Zubizarreta's left hand and into the corner, England were all but home. "You know," Pearce said. "It could all happen again on Wednesday night in the semi-final."

Vision of Gascoigne needed in advanced positions

BY DAVID MILLER

IF WE allow ourselves to cheer too loud and too long the successful taking of four penalty kicks, we will fail to recognise the realities of England's quarter-final against Spain. The English game remains, as it has fundamentally always been, one of running, on or off the ball, rather than manoeuvring the ball, excluding Stanley Matthews and a few others.

Shearer, Platt, Pearce and Gascoigne had the presence of mind, the composure, which is part of football's character, to take four exhilarating penalty kicks, which, when not awarded for foul play, are not part of the game's natural structure. England famously won a cup-tie, but hardly a match.

Holland's style had allowed Shearer, Sheringham, Anderson and McManaman the space to run, just as Germany's will in the semi-finals. But Spain mostly did not. Denied this space, by Spain pulling ten and even 11 men behind the ball, only Gascoigne possessed the technique to create openings and his lack of pace restricted the occasions on which he could go past markers. England's play in four matches so far has, in addition to collective will-power, been distinguished by three men: Seaman's noble performance in goal, McManaman's reminder of Bobby Charlton's days on the wing and Gascoigne's vision, when he is not being smothered or dispossessed by swifter opponents.

Sheringham, unwisely suggested, after the defeat of Holland, that England were in the class of Brazil. On Saturday he was less impressive even than a retired Brazilian, burdened as he appeared to be by the weight of his head. Recollections of Beardsley, Keegan and others of the past made Sheringham seem ponderously wooden.

Though Gascoigne's foul on Alfonso early in the second half was undoubtedly a penalty, which surrendered any claim to a moral victory up to that moment, the most sporting gesture of the after-

THE SHOOT-OUT

Shearer (Eng) scored	1-0
Hierro (Sp) missed	1-0
Platt (Eng) scored	2-0
Amor (Sp) scored	2-1
Pearce (Eng) scored	3-1
Belous (Sp) scored	3-2
Gascoigne (Eng) scored	4-2
Nadal (Sp) saved	4-2
England win 4-2 on pens	

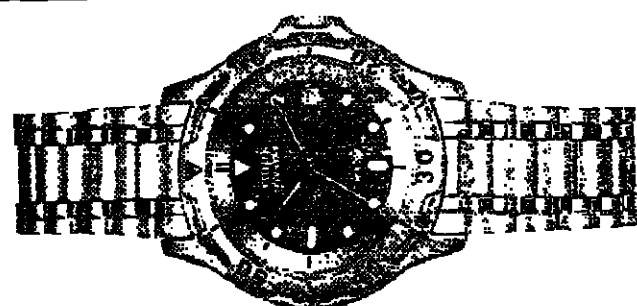
noon came from Alfonso, who had excuse enough for harbouring a grudge. When play was halted for a Spanish injury in their half of the field, he then deliberately gave England possession when the referee restarted play with a drop-ball ten yards inside the England half.

The match conspicuously illustrated England's inferior technique on the ball. The only strategic way to counter Spain's tactics, other than by endlessly hurling slings and arrows at their fortress, was to pull them forward, by close passing in midfield — as opposed to square passing across the back line, where it did not hurt — thereby creating space behind the Spanish middle line.

Only Gascoigne, however, has that kind of skill, which is why, while he continues to hold a place, it is essential for him to function on the perimeter of the attacking final third. It was from such a position, with 20 minutes of normal time remaining, that he floated the cross-pass from which Shearer ballooned an opening high over the bar.

The return of Ince, cementing the heart of midfield, is critical to the effective use of Gascoigne in the semi-finals and, to be hoped, the final. The courageous Platt only rescued some disastrous passing with heroic recovery tackles and interceptions as the match gnawed its way towards a climax.

In the history of cup-tie football by England — and I have seen all but 17 of the 172 ties they have played since 1950 — none was so agonisingly exciting as that on Saturday, other than the 1966 final. It was simultaneously gratifying and disappointing that England should win as they did, by an artificial conclusion yet with such a convulsive flourish. Admiration for the four men executing the penalty kicks is unbounded, yet I departed feeling sad for Hierro and Nadal, the two Spaniards who missed. Bernhard Langer's missed Ryder Cup putt is one thing, part of the game. A missed shoot-out penalty is something no player should have to live with.



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Vision of
Gascoigne
needed in
advanced
positions

EURO 96

DAILY TEAM-BY-TEAM GUIDE

ENGLAND

Tony Adams commanded centre stage at Bisham Abbey yesterday after his Herculean performance against Spain. The interview with the England captain — now confirmed as the official leader in place of David Platt — was liberally sprinkled with all his usual stirring stuff about all the boys being in it together, but he managed to raise a few laughs, too.

While those not involved in the game on Saturday took part in a full morning's training, including a game of one-touch in which Robbie Fowler for their injuries, went for a stroll down by the banks of the River Thames, which winds its way past their training pitches towards Henley.

Adams, the only player offered for interview yesterday, was asked how his troublesome knee was faring. "It's fine," he said, "but that's because we have just been lying on our backs watching the boats go past. As long as I restrict myself to that I'll be OK." He said he could not explain why the England team, to a man, had stayed on their feet before the onset of extra time while Spain lay on the pitch like fallen soldiers. "As far as I'm concerned, though," he said, "I know that if I had sat down I would never have got up again."

And finally, before the tabloids start weighing in with the Stan Boardman jokes, Adams got one of his own in first. A journalist from *Bird* asked him if he had a word for the Germans. "I've got a word for them," Adams said, "but it wouldn't be right to tell you what it is."

CAUTIONS: Ince (2), G. Neville (2), Adams, Shearer, Sheringham, Southgate. **OH**

GERMANY

Germany yesterday were putting the final touches on their plans for this morning's mass exodus, whether they were heading for London or Frankfurt. But the problems of the German FA, who had only the team, delegation, and support staff to worry about, were small compared to the operation to dismantle and move the media village which has grown up on the edge of the hotel grounds.

Given the size of the media corps, it is surprising that things have been so calm in the German camp, but transfer stories began to surface at the weekend, with rumours flying around that Barcelona are interested in Andreas Köpcke. Köpcke had agreed to join VfB Stuttgart, but his former club, Eintracht Frankfurt, asked for DM500,000; Stuttgart offered only DM200,000 — less than £100,000 — a dour sum for a goalkeeper proclaimed by Jürgen Klinsmann as one of the two best in the tournament.

Hence Barcelona's renewed interest, which has not pleased Bert Vogts. "It says something about Andreas's class but we want peace and quiet at the moment and do not want to be bothered with speculation like this," Vogts said. Further disruption had come on Friday night, when they had to evacuate their hotel after a false fire alarm. "It must have been a very sensitive alarm, and we were only out of the hotel for a matter of minutes," Wolfgang Niersbach, the German press officer, said.

CAUTIONS: Babbal (2), Reuter, Hassler, Möller, Kuntz, Ziege, Bierhoff, Sammer, Klinsmann. **DISMISSAL:** Strunz. **PB**

FRANCE

France progress, but at a price which could, ultimately, cost them dear. Christophe Dugary, the centre forward, will take no further part in the tournament after damaging a cruciate ligament in his knee. Dugary had been rested against Holland, because of injury worries, and had only been on for 18 minutes as a substitute before his misfortune struck.

Dugary's absence is a blow because the team functions far better with him leading the line. His injury leaves only Lolo and Matar to contest the front-running role that dictates so much of the French pattern of play. Only three forwards in a squad of 22 was a gamble, especially when a certain Angélique has been left without gainful employment.

Christian Karembeu will also miss the semi-final, a victim of his own stupidity. He was booked, for the second time in the tournament, after refusing to retreat ten yards at a free kick. "I have paid a heavy penalty. I hope my team-mates will help me by reaching the final," he said. "I would like to win the tournament now, in honour of my friend, Clarence Seedorf, who missed the penalty against us. He has asked me to win for him, and we will try hard to do it."

After their victory, described as "lucky" by Aimé Jacquet, their coach, France did not, this time, celebrate too extensively. Instead they returned to their hotel near Wigan, perhaps glad to have finally taken residence from the Russians. No one realised that Wigan, Orwellian landscape of piers and pines, held such attraction.

CAUTIONS: Karembeu (2), di Meo, Blanc, Djorkaeff, Desailly, Dugary, Deschamps. **DM**

PORTUGAL

With a small press corps and few supporters here, there has been little pressure on Portugal. "The spirit in the camp is high," Antonio Oliveira, the Portugal coach, said on Saturday, "and we are confident. We don't feel any pressure from comparisons with the team of 1986. We've won nothing but we don't need to match those teams. We're just out to prove that this generation of players is a good one. Reaching the quarter-finals is an achievement, so anything after that would be a success."

They may have reasons for hoping for greater things in future years, with a young team, most of whom played together in the youth team that won the World Youth Cup, the Portuguese FA having decided to revamp their football after 1986 with considerable success. If only they had a striker.

There was one unsettling story in the camp over the weekend, with rumours circulating that the captain, Vítor Bala's move to Barcelona has broken down. Bala refused to comment, with Oliveira banning transfer talk from the camp as a distraction, but it explained Barcelona's renewed interest in the German goalkeeper, Köpcke.

Oliveira, however, was happy to give his support to the players' request to dedicate the game to the children of East Timor, where the Indonesians have made it illegal to listen to Portugal's games on the radio and they are not allowed to be shown on television.

CAUTIONS: Paulinho Santos (2), Oceano, Sá Pinto, João Pinto, Paulo Sousa, Figo, Tavares. **PB**

SPAIN

It was billed in the Spanish media, bristling at the ugly racism of the English tabloid press, as The Brave Bull Against the Mad Cow (a genuine headline in *Marca*). The bull, they claimed yesterday, was put to the sword unfairly not by a better England team, but by a biased referee.

"You can't play against 11 men, 70,000 fans and three officials," Julio Salinas, the Spain centre forward, said. "We were cheated. We came into the European championship the worst prepared of any team, still silenced our critics but we were not able to beat all that against us."

Not exactly unused to saying it straight, Javier Clemente, the coach, went one further. "We were the better team. We turned England in their own stadium, despite all their advantages and we are only going home because the penalty process does not reward the better team," he said.

The tournament will miss Clemente, who returns, surprisingly, a hero to his homeland. After defeating Romania, Spain were branded pathetic. Now they are portrayed as heroes. "Do not cry, Spain gave England a lesson in football in the home of the game," *Marca* said.

Clemente left a message for England, and a typically controversial one. Gascoigne is not the England star, merely an overweight lager lout. The star is that shining beacon of silky skills — Gareth Southgate. "He is at the heart of everything creative England do," he said. "Come again, Javier?"

CAUTIONS: Sergi (2), Abelarado (2), Caminero, Amor, Luis Enrique, Arnesica, Otero, Kiko, Nadal, Belsue, Alfonso. **DISMISSAL:** Pizzi. **DM**

CROATIA

Croatia has been one of the more relaxed training camps to visit during Euro 96, with little of the "team v press turbulence" experienced at other less harmonious headquarters. Apart from a slight training of relationships after their opening, and unconvincing, 1-0 win over Turkey, and the criticism levelled at Miroslav Blazevic, the coach, after he had left out seven players for the game against Portugal, which they lost 3-0, all has been relative sweetness and light.

Much of the Croatian content is due to their love of chess, the national pastime in the street bars of Zagreb, Split and Osijek. It is unlikely that Paul Gascoigne enjoys such a cerebral pursuit — though he has been known to utter "I'll have a cheque, mate" — but for Zvonimir Boban, the Croatia captain, no day is complete until he has pitted his wits against Blazevic or Otto Baric, the assistant coach.

However, it is the Blazevic-Baric confrontations that transcend all others, with their duels often extending long into the night. On one occasion, Baric left foul of his rival's mischievous sense of humour and took kindly to suggestions that he had been aided by one of the players removing a piece from the board when Blazevic was not looking.

The meeting of minds got serious, DM100 was laid on the table and the battle of kings and queens commenced. Baric should have known better; he was but a mere pawn. The boss, winkle in eye as ever, won 2-1.

CAUTIONS: Asanovic, Boban, Soldo, Stanic, Prosinecki, Vucic, Famic, Jarni, Pavlic. **DISMISSAL:** Stinac. **RK**

HOLLAND

It was difficult not to feel a sliver of sympathy for Guus Hiddink, the Holland coach, after the Dutch had departed the European championship finals at Anfield on Saturday. Not only for the misfortune that appeared to befall him and his squad at every turn but also because of the patient and courteous manner in which he conducted himself throughout testing times.

Hiddink, 49, is a former coach of Fenerbahce, in Turkey, and Valencia, in Spain, where he presumably honed his skills at dealing with the fanatical, and often illogical, attentions of the local and national media. Whether coaching in Dutch or English during Euro 96, he always offered considered, rational and humorous responses to even the most banal of questioning — a lesson that might not go amiss at many an FA Carling Premiership establishment.

What did he think of the decision when Holland were denied an obvious penalty, after Desailly had handled, during normal time in their quarter-final against France? "I haven't seen the replay yet," he said. "But if it was inside the area, as I am told, then that is a shame. A great shame." Can you imagine how high Alan Ball's falsehood would have risen, or how purple Ron Atkinson's face would have raged, had similar injustice been meted out to Manchester City or Coventry City?

"France are a strong side, a strong unit, who have a lot of clever players," Hiddink added. "We gave them a good game, we created a lot of chances, but it was not enough."

CAUTIONS: Witschge, Taurment, Seedorf, Winter, Blind, Bergkamp, de Kock, Kluyvert, Bogaards. **RK**

CZECH REPUBLIC

Every Euro 96 side has thrust a hitherto little-known player into the limelight. For the Czechs that player is Radek Bejbl. He is tall, blonde and stands out in anyone's company. But he has proved a menace to opposing sides as he blasts his way through midfield.

No doubt aware of the impact that he would make during Euro 96, Slavia Prague extended his contract in generous terms just before he left for England. But since when has a contract ever prevented transfer discussions? At present Bordeaux are in talks with the club — but not the player. A larger-than-might-be-expected posse of French journalists have been attending the Czech Republic's training sessions but so far Bejbl himself is blissfully unaware of what is going on.

We used to associate eastern European teams with strict discipline. The liberated Czech Republic is now as far removed from that stigma as it could possibly be. Preparation for the game last night was gentle: a barbecue with wives and girlfriends, light stretching exercises, lazy summer-day lie-ins.

Puma is impressed, though, and quickly announced a new sponsorship deal once the Czechs reached the knockout phase, trebling its cash commitment to the side. The only downside from the players' point of view is that the Puma/Czech mascot is an enormous green tiger dressed in the team kit and it follows them everywhere.

CAUTIONS: Nedved (2), Kadlec (2), Drulak, Bejbl, Kuka, Suchoparek, Nemec. **AR**

QUARTER-FINALS

England 0 Spain 0
(aet; England win 4-2 on pens)
(Wembley, att 75,440)

Germany 2 Croatia 1
Klinsmann (21 pen)
Sammer (58) Suker (51)
(Old Trafford, att 43,412)

France 0 Holland 0
(aet; France win 5-4 on pens)
(Anfield, att 37,465)

Not including last night's match
Portugal v Czech Republic
(Villa Park)

SEMI-FINAL

England v Germany
Wednesday June 26
(Wembley, 7.30)
BBC1 and ITV

REPORTS: Oliver Holt, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson,
Alyson Rudd and David Maddock

FINAL

WEMBLEY
Sun June 30 7.0 (BBC1 and ITV)

HOW THE GROUPS FINISHED

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	2	1	0	7	2	7
Holland	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Scotland	3	1	1	1	2	4	4
Switzerland	3	0	1	2	1	1	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
Spain	3	1	2	0	4	3	5
Bulgaria	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Romania	3	0	0	3	1	4	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	3	2	1	0	5	0	7
Czech Rep	3	1	1	1	5	6	4
Italy	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Russia	3	0	1	2	4	8	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	3	2	1	0	5	1	7
Croatia	3	2	0	1	4	3	6
Denmark	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Turkey	3	0	0	3	0	5	0

GROUP A

England 1 Switzerland 1
Shearer (23) Türkyilmaz (83 pen)
(Wembley, attendance 76,567)

Holland 0 Scotland 0
Cruyff (65) Bergkamp (78)
(Villa Park, attendance 34,363)

Switzerland 0 Holland 2
Cruyff (65) Bergkamp (78)
(Villa Park, attendance 34,363)

England 2 Scotland 0
Shearer (53) Gascoigne (79)
(Wembley, attendance 76,864)

Scotland 1 Switzerland 0
McCoy (37)
(Villa Park, attendance 34,926)

England 4 Holland 1
Shearer (23 pen, 57) Sheringham (51, 62)
Kluivert (78) (Wembley, attendance 76,798)

GROUP B

Spain 1 Bulgaria 1
Alfonso (73) Stoichkov (85 pen)
(Elland Road, attendance 26,006)

Romania 0 France 1
Dugary (24)
(St James' Park, attendance 26,323)

Bulgaria 1 Romania 0
Stoichkov (3)
(St James' Park, attendance 19,107)

France 1 Spain 1
Djorkaeff (48) Caminero (85)
(Elland Road, attendance 35,826)

France 3 Bulgaria 1
Blanc (20) Penew (83 og) Loko (80) Stoichkov (69)
(St James' Park, attendance 26,876)

Romania 1 Spain 2
Raducioiu (29) Manjarin (11) Amor (83)
(Elland Road, attendance 32,719)

GROUP C

Germany 2 Czech Republic 0
Ziege (73) Stoichkov (85 pen)
(Old Trafford, attendance 37,300)

Italy 2 Russia 1
Casiraghi (5, 52) Tsymbalat (20)
(Anfield, attendance 35,120)

Czech Republic 2 Italy 1
Nedved (4) Sejbl (35) Chiesa (18)
(Anfield, attendance 37,323)

Russia 0 Germany 3
Sammer (58) Klinsmann (77, 90)
(Old Trafford, attendance 50,760)

Italy 0 Germany 0
(Old Trafford, attendance 53,740)

Russia 3 Czech Republic 3
Mostovoi (49) Tetradze (54) Baschastnykh (85)
Suchoparek (8) Kuka (19) Smicer (89)
(Anfield, attendance 21,128)

GROUP D

Denmark 1 Portugal 1
B Laudrup (21) Sá Pinto (52)
(Hillsborough, attendance 34,993)

Turkey 0 Croatia 1
Vlasic (85)
(City Ground, attendance 22,460)

Portugal 1 Turkey 0
Couto (66)
(City Ground, attendance 22,670)

Croatia 3 Denmark 0
Suker (83 pen, 90) Boban (81)
(Hillsborough, attendance 33,671)

Croatia 0 Portugal 3
Figo (4) João Pinto (33) Domingos (83)
(City Ground, attendance 20,484)

Turkey 0 Denmark 3
B Laudrup (50, 84) Nielsen (70)
(Hillsborough, attendance 28,961)

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1960 USSR
1964 Spain
1968 Italy
1972 West Germany
1976 Czechoslovakia
1980 West Germany
1984 France
1988 Holland
1992 Denmark

RUNNERS-UP

1960 Yugoslavia
1964 USSR
1968 Yugoslavia
1972 USSR
1976 West Germany
1980 Belgium
1984 Spain
1988 USSR
1992 Germany

LATEST BETTING

15-8: Germany
15-8: England
5-2: France
6-1: Portugal
14-1: Czech Republic
Odds by Ladbrokes

LEADING SCORERS

4: A Shearer (England)
3: J Klinsmann (Germany)
B Laudrup (Denmark)
H Stoichkov (Bulgaria)
D Stoker (Croatia)
2: P Casiraghi (Italy)
M Sammer (Germany)
E Sheringham (England)



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FOOTBALL

Karembou finds little justice in shoot-out success

France 0
Holland 0
(ast: France win 5-4 on penalties)

By DAVID MADDOCK

DEFLATED, defeated. The Holland players trudged through the expectant pack of journalists gathered to pick over the bones of their penalty shoot-out defeat by France in the quarter-finals on Saturday. Slumped shoulders and hollow eyes demanded no further expression.

Penalties are a good idea, if you win. Lose and they are about as fair as a court case involving an American celebrity. The red-rimmed eyes of Clarence Seedorf, glazed with shock, were testimony to that.

An hour after his fateful miss with Holland's fourth penalty, a tame sidekick that Lama, the France goalkeeper, smothered eagerly, he was still numb with the weight of his actions.

Standing with him, offering support still, was Christian Karembou, a team-mate with Sampdoria but a rival on Saturday. The France midfielder player put a consoling arm across his friend's shoulder and wondered loudly about the inherent injustice of a system that can so readily mock the efforts of even the greatest of sportsmen.

"It is not football, it is Russian roulette," he said. "It is loading a bullet into the chamber of a gun and asking everyone to pull the trigger. Someone will get the bullet, you know that. And it will reduce them to nothing, finish them. Fair? Fairness is not even an issue."

It was hard not to feel sadness for Seedorf, initially demoted to the substitutes' bench and treated so callously when he was finally ushered into the fray: not just with the penalty kick but with a save

from Lama two minutes before the end of normal time. Through on goal, Seedorf did everything right but was still denied by the eccentric acrobatics of keeper.

"I did not volunteer for the penalty," he said. "Nobody does. It is a roulette, but you know that, you have to accept that before you step up to take the penalty. I am sorry, but I am glad for the words of friendship from Karembou. I heard him, but did not see him through the tears."

It would have been far easier and less painful had the game not drawn to such an unsatisfactory, if engaging,

already so clearly it is a waste of time and does not have the right effect."

Blanc admitted that he had missed one important penalty, in the French Cup final, and was reduced to a state of terror at Anfield that virtually blanked his mind. "I had no idea where I was going to put the kick, I only made up my mind when I saw the goalkeeper move," he said.

The result was justice of sorts because, even if Holland had the better moments, Kluyvert, De Boer and Cocu all going agonisingly close, France appeared the more accomplished team. If they possessed a belief to match their talents, they would have won comfortably and be strong favourites to win the European championship.

As it is, the inexperience of the vast majority of the side is having a leaden effect on their usually fluid movement. With Dugarry now ruled out of the tournament, they probably lack the incisive front to win it.

They do have Djorkaeff, a wisp of destructive fancy, though, and a defence the equal of any in Europe. Deschamps and Desailly are the heartbeat of the side, revolutionaries of the Italian school the rest are eager to attend. If they can somehow start to believe, and continue to benefit from the patronage of kindly referees as they did here, then who knows what may be possible?

FRANCE (4-2-2-1): B. Lama (Paris Saint-Germain); L. Thuram (AS Monaco), L. Blanc (Auxerre), M. Desailly (AJC Millau), B. Lizarazu (Bordeaux); C. Karembou (Sampdoria), D. Deschamps (Juventus), V. Guerin (Paris Saint-Germain); Z. Zidane (Bordeaux), Y. Djorkaeff (Paris Saint-Germain); P. Loko (Paris Saint-Germain), sub: C. Dugarry, Bordeaux, 61min; sub: R. P. Pedrosa, Nantes, 80.

HOLLAND (4-4-1-1): E. van der Sar (Ajax); M. Reijnders (Ajax), D. Blind (Ajax), J. de Kock (PSV Eindhoven), W. Boppre (Ajax); J. Jord (Barcellona), sub: A. Winter, Internazionale, 68, R. de Boer (Ajax), R. Witschge (Bordeaux), sub: Y. Mulder, Schalke 04, 80, P. Cocu (PSV Eindhoven); D. Bergkamp (Arsenal), sub: C. Seedorf, Sampdoria, 59; P. Kluivert (Ajax). Referee: L. Niko (Spain).



conclusion. A mixture of fearful, and fear-filled, finishing and poor refereeing prevented such a course. Like everyone at Anfield Mr Nieto spotted a handball from Desailly, the France defender, but was alone in judging the offence took place outside the box.

Djorkaeff and Zidane could have finished the contest for France, but were denied at close range by the impressive van der Sar. That then, was extra time, and the "golden goal", or "sudden death", as Ronald de Boer pointedly preferred to call it.

"Penalties are awful, unfair, but what else is there?" Laurent Blanc, the France defender, who converted his country's fifth, and winning, penalty, said. "The golden goal is not the answer. We have seen that in two games



Lama, the France goalkeeper, saves Seedorf's penalty at Anfield to earn his country a place in the semi-finals of the European championship

Forget football for an instant solution

Simon Barnes on why teams choose the sanctuary of a penalty shoot-out rather than risk a glorious finale

And so, at the end of three months' hard and bitter struggle, Karpov and Kasparov looked at each other across the table. The two great masters of chess had fought out 120 games and each one had ended in stalemate. Neither could score a single victory against the other.

"How shall we settle this?" Kasparov asked. "Tiddly-winks." Karpov said, "Five winks each. The player who flips the most winks into the eggcup wins."

"I always knew it would come down to this," Kasparov said. Karpov looked him in the eye. "So did I."

And so they flipped their winks and everybody agreed that it was the most dramatic game of tiddly-winks ever played. Those who said it was not really much to do with chess were called spoilsports or bad losers. Tiddly-winks was here to stay.

Those who had to write about it found themselves saying that, really, looking at the entire three months in a thoughtful, considered light, Karpov just about deserved to win. Some of them wondered if they would be saying the same thing, or the exact opposite, had Kasparov won the tiddly-winks. Did the tiddly-winks cause the writers to rewrite history even as it happened? But history is

always the songs of the victors and besides, I'm right on deadline here.

After watching England from the press room at Anfield on Saturday, and the ridiculous penalty competition, I then went out to watch Holland play France. It was not a bad game, but it was overshadowed, both in memory and at the time, by the

system this morning. Penalties are not football. They are not even, as television people are always telling us, great drama. They are cheap melodrama. Melodrama is based on ridiculous exaggeration. Melodrama is bad art as penalties are bad sport.

It is, however, what the penalties do for the football that comes before them that is really damaging. Goalkeepers do not fear penalties; they relish them. It is a chance to be a hero for free, for there is no danger of being blamed. It is glory without responsibility.

In the same way, teams do not really fear penalty shoot-outs. Yes, they are nerve-racking, but no one can seriously be blamed. It is not like giving the ball away to concede a goal in open play. Play safe! Penalties will be reached. A penalty competition is not to be feared, far from it. It is, in fact, the safest of safe havens.

Small wonder, then, that there is a secret, unspoken conspiracy that almost inevitably takes two well-

matched teams to the penalty shoot-out. It is nothing less than a conspiracy of fear.

There are 120 minutes to play — but in the end, all question of blame, all question of responsibility, can be set aside in the penalty competition.

The penalty competition is a failure, and one suspects that even Fifa, the world governing body, knows it. So it came up with this new system for settling matches that is called, ridiculously, "the golden goal concept". We know it as "sudden death" — first team to score in extra time wins. Great idea, wasn't it? All it does is to make the fear of catastrophic error still greater, the safety of the penalty competition still more desirable.

So Holland went out of the European championship because Lama got down to save Seedorf's penalty. Cruel. But at least 21 Holland players, 13 of whom actually played, and all the coaching staff knew that it was not their fault.

The existence of the penalty shoot-out has become a self-fulfilling prophecy: the last resort has become not so much normal as inevitable. Once we used to look forward to the end of the group stages at a leading tournament: the moment when the real football began. Now the knockout stage is where real football ends.

'All question of blame can be set aside'

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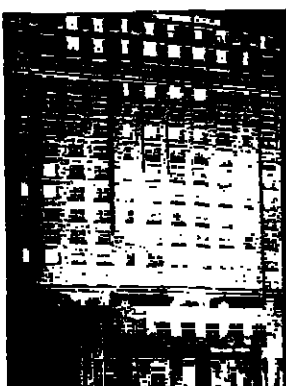
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CRICKET: STEWART STEERING ENGLAND TOWARDS SAFETY IN A SECOND TEST WINNING FEW POINTS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

India's newcomers make their mark

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

LORD'S (fourth day of five): England, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 28 runs ahead of India

IT WOULD have taken a startlingly good Test match to hold the attention of the sporting nation this weekend and Lord's, for all its splendour and ceremony, has not provided it. Unless England bat remarkably badly today, the second game of this Cornhill series will end in the draw which has loomed large since early on Friday.

This will be thought disappointing, partly because the modern cricket watcher is unaccustomed to stalemate but also because England, unusually, were expected to win. India, however, have learned from the starkness of their defeat at Edgbaston. They came here determined not to lose and, through infinitely more resourceful batting, that priority will be achieved.

An India victory is not inconceivable, for England's lead is slender and they have already lost both Michael Atherton and Nasser Hussain. Not the first paradox of this game is that the man steering them towards safety,

India's young stars 32
Benson suffers 32
Sunday League 33

last evening, was Alec Stewart, who would not even have played but for Nick Knight failing a fitness test.

It has not been edge-of-the-seat entertainment. Only 22 wickets have fallen in four days and, with a day to come, the runs aggregate is barely more than half the total amassed in the corresponding fixture of 1990. Apart from the emotional welcome for Dickie Bird and the acclaim for centuries by Jack Russell and Sourav Ganguly, the crowd was at its most animated while England were taking penalties up the road at Wembley.

This does not make it a irredeemably poor match, simply one of old-fashioned pace, of measured tread. Batsmen have been unable to score just enough to advance the game. This has suited India's main purpose perfectly well and by shedding the cavalier legacies of a one-day overdose, they have never been in danger of defeat.

Their newcomers have so far excelled themselves that a slice of cricket history was almost attained. For two debutants to score centuries in the same innings — even the same match — is unknown in Test cricket, yet Rahul Dravid was only five runs short of emulating Ganguly when he fell to the third new ball yesterday afternoon.

England will have found it chastening to be confined to the field for almost two days and worrying that their bowling could look innocuous for so long. An attack mono-



Dravid, who fell five runs short of a century in his maiden Test innings, forces a short ball through the offside at Lord's yesterday

polished by seam is seldom a good idea and none of England's five have posed as much threat as either of the India new-ball bowlers, Javagal Srinath and Venkatesh Prasad.

Chris Lewis produced the ball of the match to pitch on and hit Sachin Tendulkar's off stump and generally looked the likeliest to take wickets. Peter Martin atoned, with a spell of good line and consistent outswinging yesterday morning, for some tame stuff on Saturday but Alan Mullally, who maintained an admirable line through the third day, regressed on the fourth. The jury remains out on him.

Too often, the line of the bowlers erred so spectacularly that Russell was obliged to take off, in either direction, to avoid conceding byes. It was not Russell's noisiest work for England, and 11 byes were recorded against him, but he will feel the bowlers made his life unnecessarily hard.

The pavilion flags flew at half-mast yesterday morning, following news of the death of Ray Lindwall, and a fourth near-capacity crowd was taking its time in arriving. The latecomers must have known something, for it took England more than three hours to prise out the remaining four Indian wickets, by which point a

deficit of 85 had been registered.

David Lloyd's attention to detail, as England coach, extends to gathering data on how and where each of the opposition batsmen score their runs. He felt well prepared on both Ganguly and Dravid: whether he felt his bowlers carried out instructions is more arguable. Dravid could not match the elegance of his colleague but he equalled his tenacity and spent the morning session adding only 23 runs.

Kumble was out within the first hour, a shuffle across his stumps against Martin giving umpire Hair little option but

to raise his previously reluctant finger. Srinath led a charmed life until Mullally bowled him behind his legs and Dravid was into his seventh hour at the crease when Lewis ended his dreams of immortality.

England now had to bat out half the day with no ambition of anything but a draw. At first, this was a thoroughly uncomfortable mission as Srinath endorsed his stature as the best bowler on either side through a withering spell against Atherton. The England captain was almost caught at short-leg, spooned an attempted pull just over the infield and needed all his

instincts to drop his hands against a series of lifting balls. He was also struck painfully on his right index finger, bursting a blood vessel.

Having somehow negotiated all this, Atherton set sail with more assurance after tea, only to be cut short by a dramatic leg break from Kumble which pitched on middle stump and turned sharply to hit off. It was a wonderful delivery, the highlight of a somewhat humdrum day.

Stewart will not think so. Presented with time and opportunity to restate his England credentials, he responded busily. Offering a possible legside chance to Mongia off Kumble, he was otherwise in command, his feet working more nimbly than of late. He lost Hussain with four overs remaining, bizarrely caught at cover as he tried to withdraw from a planned hook, but this morning he will fancy his chances of the century that will give the selectors pause for thought.

Atherton made to struggle for peace of mind

MICHAEL HENDERSON



At Lord's

For half an hour yesterday afternoon, as India battled to get back into a game that was becoming drier by the minute, Michael Atherton looked an ordinary batsman. He has a claim to being the most reliable opener in Test cricket, after Mark Taylor of Australia, and it was a mark of Srinath's excellence that when he had the ball in his hand, the England captain could only hang on for dear life.

It is too early to say that Atherton has lost his form; better to say he is having the sort of problems that afflict all experienced batsmen from time to time. He is not moving his feet properly and he might be feeling that he is receiving more good balls than the chap at the other end. In this mood he expects the worst that the bowlers can hurl at him and wears a pained expression, as if he mistrusts the world at large.

What can a batsman do when he's out of nick, except keep batting? To keep his bowing arm in shape Yehudi Menuhin used to practise the violin for three hours every day, no matter what. A batsman is less fortunate because, however valuable nets may be on days off, they can never replicate the heat of battle. As Alec Stewart went to his fifty last night, Atherton probably thought: "Oh! Those are my runs you're making".

It is now five matches since Atherton made the last, and most outstanding, of his nine Test

hard to break a bowler's spell, and on many other days it would have cost him his wicket. Then, painfully, he was hit on his bottom hand as he withdrew it from the bat handle.

Not for the first time this summer Srinath went unwarded for an outstanding piece of bowling. Where England's bowlers looked toothless, unable to worry the India batsmen in the first part of the day, Srinath generated pace and got the ball to go past the bat at a fair height. He did not get his man but he reminded Atherton that, so long as he is around, batting will never be easy, even on a placid pitch.

The game needed that red-blooded passage, for there was little else to get worked up about. This has been an old-fashioned Test, with the batsmen spreading their runs grudgingly through each session. India, who batted so sloppily at Edgbaston, have been determined to show they can play responsibly, to the point of self-denial. That is not to denigrate the efforts of Dravid, who came within five runs of emulating Ganguly's hundred on his debut. He showed the virtue of an unfussy approach, against bowling that lacked devilment. It is that failure, rather than Atherton's current form, that should concentrate the minds of England's thinkers.

He has not started the season in the brightest form for Lancashire, and England cannot long sustain a captain out of kilter. Without Atherton's hand on the tiller their batting is often rudderless. They may get away with it against India, but Pakistan, with their superior bowling resources, will ask tougher questions.

SCOREBOARD FROM LORD'S

INDIA won Test		ENGLAND: First Innings 344 (R C Russell 124, G P Thorpe 89; B V Prasad 5 for 76)	
INDIA: First Innings 124 (R C Russell 124, G P Thorpe 89; B V Prasad 5 for 76)		ENGLAND: Second Innings 17 (M A Atherton 17, N Hussain 17)	
INDIA: Second Innings 124 (R C Russell 124, G P Thorpe 89; B V Prasad 5 for 76)		ENGLAND: Third Innings 17 (M A Atherton 17, N Hussain 17)	
INDIA: Third Innings 124 (R C Russell 124, G P Thorpe 89; B V Prasad 5 for 76)		ENGLAND: Fourth Innings 17 (M A Atherton 17, N Hussain 17)	

Azharuddin's courage reaps rewards

There is nothing like a good English pitch and a modern England bowling attack, especially one devoid of spin, for putting visiting batsmen at their ease. Had the pitch for the first Test match at Edgbaston not been such a poor one, the Indians would no doubt have discovered the voracity of this there, and not had to wait until Lord's before doing so.

In this second Test they have had one crucial stroke of luck: they won the toss and were thus spared from batting first. If Azharuddin feels he is letting his side down with the magic wand which passes for his bat, his courage in putting England in here, despite the calamitous consequences of having done the same on the corresponding occasion six years ago, has more than made up for it. It could be said to have saved a tour.

Had India been batting last Thursday morning, with the ball moving about prodigiously, they could well have been routed. Normally it is only at Headingley under low cloud that the bat is beaten with such frequency as it was in the first two or three hours of England's first innings. By Friday afternoon, when India went in, the fire and futility had gone out of the pitch, and, but for the ball with which Lewis bowled Tendulkar, a real beauty, they might easily have come closer than they did to the 600 for nine which they made at the Oval in their last but one Test match in this country.

As entertainment, the present match has been a big disappointment. In very different conditions, England made things happen at Edgbaston: at Lord's, where thrust and variety in bowling have come to be needed, they have dropped away again, not least because of their choice of a one-paced attack. Contrast in pace not only gives a captain more options and a game more interest: it prevents batsmen from settling down.

David Lloyd's influence was evident

John Woodcock rejoices in the two splendid innings which have illuminated the Lord's Test

during India's innings with one or two new and carefully-conceived field-placings — a very fine leg slip for Ganguly, for example, and two square legs, one just either side of the umpire, for Azharuddin; but there was no compensating for the absence of a proper English spinner.

It was splendid to see a young Bengali playing such a vital and resolute innings for India as Ganguly's, and parading to handsomely the left-hander's natural cover drive. In the 64 years for which India have played Test cricket the only other Bengali to have made a hundred for them was Pankaj Roy, and Ganguly got his chance on this tour only as a

replacement for the wayward Vinod Kambli. For over seven hours on Friday and Saturday his self-discipline and technique were remarkable — and he is not yet 23.

As a source of cricketering talent Calcutta is as untapped as it is incalculable. If the monsoon allowed it, the fact that one of its multitude, Sourav Ganguly, has become only the third player to make a Test hundred at Lord's on his debut will have generated all the improvised games that went on at the weekend, on fetid streets or teeming Maidan, in that incredible city. Ganguly's innings will have done much good and brought great joy. The two other batsmen to have got off the



Ganguly acknowledges the Lord's crowd after becoming only the third player to score a century on his Test debut at the ground

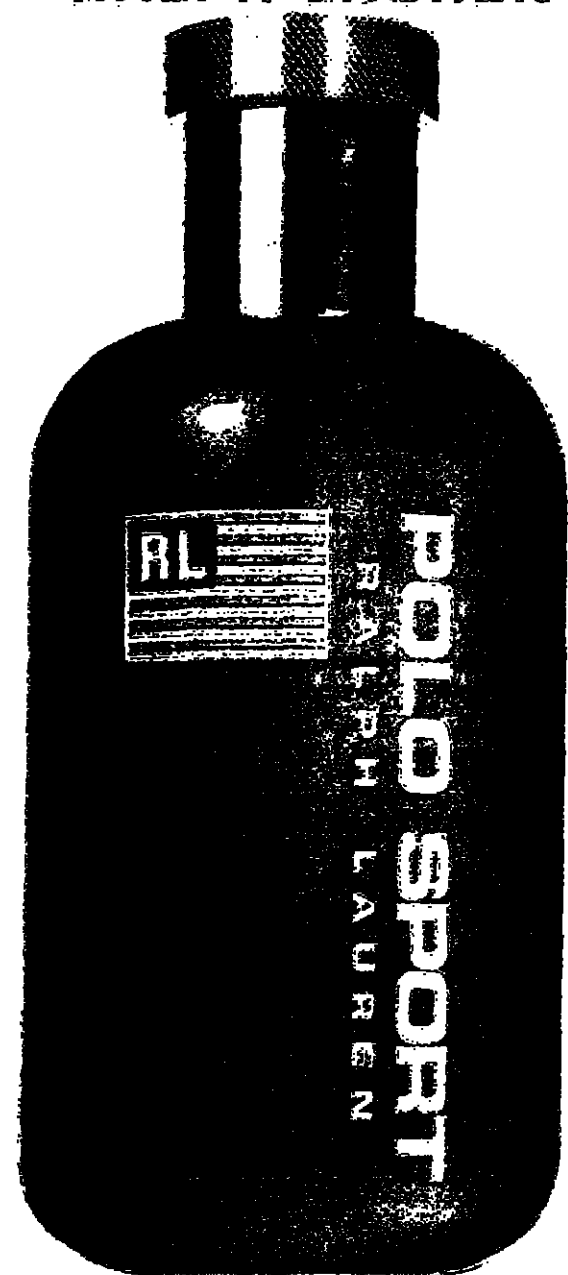
mark in Test cricket with a century at Lord's were Harry Graham, for Australia, in 1893 and John Hampshire, for England, against West Indies in 1960.

Then came Rahul Dravid, from southern India, who, like Ganguly, soon found that the reason why England's bowlers came and looked him in the eye after following through was because they could contrive no more constructive or laudable way of asserting themselves. Dravid is, if anything, a more instinctive player than Ganguly. He is certainly more typically oriental, his game hanging to a greater degree on eye and wrist. He, too, must wish that life always consisted of batting against England at Lord's in June, watched by a generous crowd, with the sun shining and Cork and Martin bowling from one end and Lewis, Mullally and Irani from the other.

Lastly, and briefly, a word about umpire Bird, who takes his final bow in Test cricket today, the first umpire in any sport to have enjoyed star billing. Walking down Piccadilly in his flat white cap, this unusually self-effacing Yorkshireman would be more widely recognised than anyone in Parliament, other than the Prime Minister, or in the Church, other perhaps than the Pope, or from the stage or in industry. If television is responsible for that, so also is Bird's own ingenueness.

I felt the acclaim accorded to him at the start of this Test match, and the fuss the two teams made, as though all the kings and queens of England were about to appear, would have been better left until this evening. But I was told that that was mean of me, and it was indeed a most affectionate tribute, one that would have been paid only to an essentially honest and unexpectedly resilient figure. At his best Dickie Bird has been an exceptional umpire — more an Alex Skelding or a Bill Reeves of the day than a Frank Chester, the doyen of them all.

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CRICKET

Benson frustrated onlooker as Kent revival gains pace

THERE is a poignancy to the county championship table this morning. Kent, for whom the wooden spoon was such an indignity last season, have climbed to the top after a stirring victory over the champions, Warwickshire. But their captain, Mark Benson, has played no active part and he now fears that his 17-year career may be over.

Benson is resigning himself to the fact that he will miss the entire season with a serious knee injury. Ironically sustained during a friendly game of football. And while the team he built, during six years as captain, mounts a challenge for the title they last won in 1978, Benson waits fretfully to discover if he will play again.

"I am worried that it is career-threatening," Benson said. "Initially, I was told I had torn a ligament and it would take six weeks to mend, but I then developed a sharp pain behind the knee. A specialist told me I had torn off a large piece of cartilage and that every time I walk, if I tread in a certain way, it brings bone against bone."

"The pain when that happens is excruciating, so bad it makes me feel sick and dizzy, and although I feel it is slowly getting better, my surgeon is not confident that I'll be able to play this year." As Benson is 38 next month and had planned only one further season as a player, the long-term implication is obvious.

"It is terribly frustrating, because I can't even run, bike or swim, so I feel I am making no progress. But although I

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

hate missing so much cricket, I am honestly thrilled that the team is doing well. Some people have suggested that it must be making me feel worse, but I couldn't be more wrong. I brought a lot of these players to the club. They're my friends, as well as cricketers. I happen to believe in, so of course I want them to succeed."

Benson remains hurt by the reaction of a body of Kent members to the curious double last season of the Sunday League title and the championship wooden spoon. The captain and his players were criticised at the club's annual meeting, despite having won their first trophy in 17 years. "I felt it was unfair," Benson said, "but I know that the people who attend the AGM are not the type who go to the Sunday League."

"I was stung by certain comments, especially by people who said they didn't care at all about the Sunday League. It still rankles a little, because they did not give us credit for what we had achieved — and both Steve Marsh and I agreed that once we had won a trophy we would be on the way."

Marsh, who has led the side in Benson's absence, is now enjoying the vindication of that belief. Benson's pride can only be expressed from afar. "The fact is that our players have a new confidence, which comes from having won something. I always thought it would happen this way."

Benson is also intrigued to see that Northamptonshire are having just the kind of season Kent did last year — they are in the Benson and Hedges Cup final and top of the Sunday League, yet bottom of the championship after Worcestershire escaped from that position by heroically chasing 446 to beat Somerset on Saturday. "It is a fact of this game that if you have a relatively small playing staff then something will have to give during a season. Nobody sets out to do badly in the championship."

No such problems for Kent right now, though. Five wickets for Martin McGahey, who has bowled with great zest, pushed a defiant Warwickshire to their third defeat in seven matches — one more than they lost throughout last season. Mark Ealham, whose consistency and vitality could bring him a Test cap before the summer is out, finished with match figures of ten for 74 but a ninth-wicket stand of 92 kept the result in doubt and confirmed that there is life in the ailing champions yet.

Although Benson has been inactive, his input to Kent's season has been considerable. It was his idea, for instance, that Matthew Fleming, widely dismissed as a one-day slogger, should open the batting and Fleming has responded with a series of bold and important innings.

Fleming will be the choice of many to take on the captaincy if, as expected, Benson relinquishes it at the end of the season. Graham Cowdrey will also have his supporters and Marsh is in the odd position of knowing that he is unlikely to keep the job unless, in his caretaker role, he can bring the championship to Canterbury this year.

Benson, meanwhile, is pondering his future, possibly as an umpire or even in the sports betting business that so fascinates him. "But that is a decision I hope I don't have to take for a while," he said. "I've made 48 centuries in my career and I would dearly love to make that 50. It's an incentive to keep hoping that I can get over this injury."



Benson: serious injury

India's youngsters so quick to learn



Amit Pagnis, right, captain for the day, and Mithun Manhas survey the scene during the Star Cricket Club's recent match at Marlow

When Sourav Ganguly first toured England, he told his manager, the benevolent Kailash Gattani, that somebody else must pack and carry his bags for him. He came from an affluent background in India and was as slow to change his pampered ways as he was his sluggish running between the wickets. What was distinctive was a feel for the game that was so apparent in his century on his Test debut at Lord's on Saturday.

Ganguly, it should be said, was barely 15 years old at the time. He was in England with the Star Cricket Club of India, which a decade ago was founded by Gattani, a former first-class cricketer, in order to foster talent on the subcontinent. Its success can be gauged from the fact that five other players, Rahul Dravid, Ajay Jadhav, Vinod Kambli, Paras Mhamrey and Sachin Tendulkar have subsequently played Test cricket.

Another cricketer who has come to prominence is Anil Muzumdar, who has played for India A against England A and who made 260 on his debut for Bombay, which is a first-

Ivo Tennant on the club that discovered Sourav Ganguly, a century-maker on his debut at Lord's

class record. The club's ethos, though, has been not merely to give invaluable experience to talented teenagers, but to provide opportunities for those who might not otherwise have been able to improve themselves. P Munnuswamy, a 17-year-old who has been adopted by the Railways club, cannot even afford to buy himself an ice-cream.

The development of cricketers such as Tendulkar is fabled. This cannot always be understood at the venues at which the Star Club is playing on its tenth year of England. At Marlow and the Old Whitgiftians ground, in Croydon, a batsman is reckoned to reach maturity at the age of 30. The Forty Club, who put out a team at the start of the Star Club's 4½-week tour, might even balk at that.

Gattani, 49, first saw Tendulkar bat when he was 14. There was no doubting his talent. "I saw him and thought, I must take him to England."

The next year, he did. Kambli came at 15, Dravid when 17 and again at 18 and Jadhav when 17. At Marlow last week, the Star Club's under-17s beat an England under-19 XI, which highlighted the difference in development. In addition to the Test players that Gattani has nurtured, more than 50 other boys have made an impression in domestic cricket in India.

The tours have been supported by Schools Partnership Worldwide, an educational charity that has been advised by Mike Brearley, the former England captain. Various other sponsors have subsequently become involved. Gattani, who captained Rajasthan and coached in Durham and Scotland, was helped in his quest to discover talented boys through his job selling Mercedes cars in India. He travelled a great deal and began to "collect" players, as he puts it. "Unlike some Pakistanis, they had birth certificates." On their early

tours, the Star Club would play against public schools and Leeds University.

"We found we were winning these matches too easily and so started to ask for stronger fixtures, for example against county second XIs."

The likes of Tendulkar and Ganguly quickly made an impression. "Sourav had tremendous ability, but I told his father that his running between the wickets and his fielding were on the slow side. He came from a rich family and I had to push him to carry his own bags. But he has become a very good cricketer and I was delighted he did so well at Lord's," Gattani said.

A notable feature of the Star Club's touring party is that there is no captain. The idea, Gattani said, is that several boys should have a turn "to make them think like leaders". Raj Singhji, a former chairman of India's selectors, said that the boys have been given "a wealth of experience at such an early stage of their lives". Ganguly will not be the last member of the Star Club to score a century at the highest level in England, rest assured of that.

England women paying price for inactivity

By SARAH POTTER

THE England women cricket team begin a three-match Test series against New Zealand today in Scarborough, less than a week after they were outplayed and overpowered in three one-day internationals.

This sudden burst of activity represents England's first competitive home cricket since the glorious, sun-baked World Cup final at Lord's in August 1993. There, against all the odds and in front of a large, patriotic crowd brimming with admiration, England lifted the cup in a style fitting of pilgrims. New Zealand do not need reminding that it was they who were left standing in the lengthening shadow of Father Time, pondering lost opportunity.

Not so now. The one-day series is already in the tourist bag and all the obvious fail-

ties belong to England. The question on home supporters' lips is: "Why?"

Lack of cricket is the main answer. No follow-up on the pitch has dried up eager media interest. The European Cup in Dublin last summer and the winter tour of India offered too little, too late. The players have been kept waiting in the pavilion and seven of the World Cup side have gone.

Most notable of the absentees is Jo Chamberlain. Her left-arm pace and lusty hitting, so striking in the women's game, is not easy to replace. Now married, she has, apparently, not retired but chosen to sit the season out. The strange timing of her decision hints at the depth of disillusionment.

At least the Women's Cricket Association is trying to stand up to the self-inflicted

bouncers of the past. Changes to structure and personnel have modernised attitudes and outlook. Barbara Daniels is the England vice-captain on the pitch and the association's new executive director. She will use all her enthusiasm to increase numbers playing the



Brittin: misses Test

game, but sponsorship will never be far from her thoughts.

As it is, the jangle of small change sends a disappointed tingle up the spine of the sport. Tireless efforts to find a corporate sponsor for this series have drawn a blank. Money men offer goodwill but no hard cash. Had it not been for the £50,000 generated by the three-year television deal with Sky Sports, women's cricket would be out on a limb.

Ball-by-ball coverage of the recent internationals in Leicester and Durham should surely have generated more interest than it did. Shade and helmets mirrored fashions in the men's game but coloured clothing, complete with players' names, would have raised more than a disdainful eyebrow. Such radical moves might cause a grey hair or two among some

elderly pink-rinse traditionalists, but it is forward-thinking marketing that will turn heads in the distant future.

On the pitch, I suspect it will be Debbie Hockley, of New Zealand, who will catch the eye. If England are to have a chance in the series they must dismiss her quickly. Her nomination as player of the match in all three internationals last week testifies to that. A Hockley cover drive at Leicester broke one finger and dislocated another of Janette Brittin, the England opener. The loss of Brittin could hardly have been worse, now 37 and still gracefully athletic, she remains the best England player. Like Hockley she is a special talent, but is not expected to be fit until the third Test at Guildford. That will be the hundredth women's Test, a landmark England players wish had come sooner.

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannia Assurance county championship

Derbyshire v Middlesex

DERBY (third day of four): Middlesex, with four second-innings wickets in hand, require 383 runs to beat Derbyshire.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 321 (C J Adams 125, K J Barnett 53, P C R Turner 5 for 72).

Second Innings
K J Barnett c Carr b Fraser 55
C J Adams not out 136
D M Jones not out 100
Extras (b 6, lb 7) 13
Total (8 wickets) 383

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-88, 2-175
BOWLING: Fraser 13-1-55-1; Fay 25-8-84-1; Fother 18-1-78-3; Weekes 12-2-42-0; Turner 30-5-85-0; Rampersad 1-0-4-0; Gattani 4-0-25-0.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 185 (A J Harris 6 for 43)
P N Weekes c Kilgallon b Harris 56
J C Harris c Kilgallon b Harris 0
M R Rampersad c Adams b Dean 16
M W Gattani b Harris 24
D J Barnett c Madsen b Madsen 9
J C Pootley b Barnett 20
K R Brown not out 20
R A Ray not out 20
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 3, nb 8) 20
Total (6 wickets) 157

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-46, 3-104, 4-121, 5-127, 6-151
BOWLING: Madsen 15-3-59-1; Harris 12-3-29-3; Dean 7-2-30-1; DeFreitas 10-3-20-0; Barnett 4-0-17-1
Extras: Derbyshire 7; Middlesex 4
Umpires: R Julian and D J Constant

Durham v Surrey

STOCKTON (third day of four): Surrey require 141 runs to beat Durham.

DURHAM: First Innings 377 (S L Campbell 59, S J E Brown 65, D G G Lightowler 55, J E Benjamin 4 for 80)

Second Innings
S L Campbell c Kersley b P Bicknell 34
S Hutton c Julian b P Bicknell 4
J E Brown c Brown b P Bicknell 4
D A Blenkinslow b Benjamin 1
P Bicknell c Blenkinslow b Pearson 18
P D Collywood c Kersley 21
10 G C Lightowler c Kersley 4
K J Hollock 4
J Belling not out 44
J Wood c A and b Hollock 12
S J E Brown b Julian 18
S L Campbell not out 12
Extras (b 1, lb 5, w 4, nb 32) 42
Total 203

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-37, 3-40, 4-77, 5-81, 6-142, 7-168, 8-178, 9-201
BOWLING: M P Bicknell 18-5-40-3; Benjamin 19-3-38-1; Pearson 15-4-42-1; Julian 12-5-38-3; Rampersad 2-0-12-0; Sharad 1-1-0-0; Blenkinslow 1-0-6-0; Hollock 10-4-26-2.

SURREY: First Innings
J D Bicknell c Lightowler b Luggenden 106
M A Butcher c Luggenden b Belling 180
J D Bicknell c Lightowler b Luggenden 51
N Shahid b Belling 0
A D Brown b Wood 28
S J E Brown not out 31
B J Hollock b Belling 19
P N Weekes b Belling 31
M P Bicknell b Wood 5
R M Pearson c gub b Luggenden 1
Extras (b 8, lb 11, w 10, nb 10) 39
Total 440

Score at 120 overs: 426-7
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-245, 2-345, 3-347, 4-376, 5-382, 6-385, 7-413, 8-424, 9-438

Nottinghamshire v Gloucestershire

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four): Nottinghamshire (241) beat Gloucestershire (3) by an innings and three runs.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 460 (C L Caine 114, R T Robinson 84, A A Metcalfe 78)

Second Innings
A J Wright b Cairns 19
N M Smith c Archer b Cairns 20
R J Curfife b Cairns 7
T H C Hopwood c Downson b Bowen 36
S A Symonds c Archer b Cairns 117
M W Alleyne c Cairns b Bowen 0
R C Williams c Archer b Allford 40
R D Davis b Cairns 4
A Dale b D Giddins 5
J Lewis c Robinson b Cairns 8
C A Welch not out 2
Extras (b 4, lb 5, nb 4) 13
Total 257

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40, 2-45, 3-147, 4-147, 5-229, 6-248, 7-248, 8-251, 9-362
BOWLING: Cairns 26-1-62-2; Bowen 13-5-11-2; Cairns 18-4-30-5; Bates 12-2-43-0; Allford 19-4-62-1
Umpires: A Clarkson and D R Shepherd

SOMERSET v WORCESTERSHIRE
BATH (first day of four): Worcestershire (201) beat Somerset (6) by one wicket.

SOMERSET: First Innings 285 (P D Bowler 112, R K Bengeath 5 for 40)
Second Innings 376 for 6 (S L 167 not out, R J Turner 100 not out)

Worcestershire v Kent

Worcestershire: First Innings 194 (A R Caddick 7 for 89)

Second Innings
T S Curtis b W b Raso 85
W P C Weston c Turner b Caddick 83
M Spring b W b Caddick 1
T M Mordy b Batty 4
V S Solanki c Kayhurst b Caddick 71
S R Larmann c Raso b Caddick 32
P J Newport c Hollock b Lee 23
R K Llewellyn run out 32
D A Lushdale run out 0
A Sherrin not out 4
Extras (b 8, lb 8, w 1, nb 4) 21
Total (8 wickets) 449

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-105, 2-107, 3-165, 4-202, 5-276, 6-324, 7-392, 8-445, 9-445
BOWLING: Caddick 36-3-151-4; Rose 25-6-80-1; Batty 26-7-78-1; Lee 11-0-65-1; Trump 12-1-55-0; Hayfield 2-0-3-0
Umpires: J D Bond and N T Plews

Sussex v Glamorgan
HOVE (third day of four): Glamorgan, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, require 133 runs to beat Sussex.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 133 (J D Lewis 6 for 44)

Second Innings
S P James b Lewis 8
H Morris b Lewis 8
A Dale b D Giddins 18
M P Maynard not out 45
P A Colley not out 43
Extras (b 4, lb 4, nb 4) 12
Total (5 wickets) 122

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-36, 3-58, 4-58, 5-78, 6-99, 7-108, 8-130, 9-231
BOWLING: McGahey 21-3-101-5; Headley 19-3-72-2; Ealham 15-8-30-2; Preston 10-3-29-0; Fleming 10-4-0-1
Umpires: B Dudson and R A White

Warwickshire v Kent

EDGBASTON (third day of four): Kent (224) beat Warwickshire (4) by 32 runs.

KENT: First Innings 258 (M V Penny 61, D R Brown 5 for 68, S M Pollock 4 for 60)

Second Innings 184 (N J Long 53, D R Brown 6 for 52)
WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 137 (M A Ealham 6 for 36)

Second Innings
A J Miles c Marsh b Ealham 75
M K Smith c Hooper b McGahey 16
M G Nyan b McGahey 10
D P Oller c Marsh b McGahey 17
T L Penney b Headley 20
D R Brown c Marsh b Headley 0
S M Pollock b W b Ealham 4
M R Burns c Headley b McGahey 21
G Welch c Fleming b McGahey 12
A F Gales c Hooper b Fleming 65
T A Munton not out 0
Extras (b 10, lb 2, w 1, nb 4) 17
Total 258

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-36, 3-40, 4-51, 5-78, 6-99, 7-108, 8-130, 9-231
BOWLING: McGahey 21-3-101-5; Headley 19-3-72-2; Ealham 15-8-30-2; Preston 10-3-29-0; Fleming 10-4-0-1
Umpires: B Dudson and R A White

Yorkshire v Leicestershire

BRADFORD (third day of four): Yorkshire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, need 179 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Leicestershire.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 881 for 7 (J J Whitaker 218, V J Wells 200, P A Nixon 77 not out, P V Simmons 68)

Second Innings
M D Mason b Parsons 0
M P Vaughan b Parsons 0
D G Blythe c Parsons b Milne 42
M G Bevan c Parsons b Milne 0
A McGrath c Nixon b Wells 24
C White c Parsons b Parsons 15
R J Blakey c Parsons b Parsons 1
Gough c Smith b Brinson 5
P J Hildley c Simmons b Brinson 3
C E W Silverwood c Parsons 24
Extras (b 3, lb 3, w 1, nb 2) 7
Total (8 wickets) 406

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-31, 3-130, 4-133, 5-134, 6-164, 7-338, 8-358, 9-400
BOWLING: Wells 31-7-78-2; Parlin 29-4-84-2; Parsons 28-2-4-121-5; Croft 32-4-75-1; Butcher 9-1-41-0
Extras: Sussex 8; Glamorgan 3
Umpires: A A Jones and P Willey

Second Innings
M D Mason b Parsons 0
M P Vaughan b Parsons 0
D G Blythe c Parsons b Milne 42
M G Bevan not out 45
A McGrath c Parsons 32
C White not out 4
C E W Silverwood c Maddy b Brinson 3
Extras (b 3, lb 1, w 1, nb 2) 7
Total (5 wickets) 180

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-47, 3-79, 4-142, 5-152
BOWLING: Milne 12-3-44-2; Parsons 13-6-36-0; Pearson 18-6-30-2; Wells 8-2-26-0; Brinson 4-0-20-1
Extras: Yorkshire 4; Leicestershire 6
Umpires: B J Meyer and K E Palmer

FORTHCOMING COMPANY GOLF DAYS

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24 JUN	MONSANTO PLC	NOAKHURST	35
24 JUN	MORTGAGE TRUST LTD	LEATHERHEAD	36
24 JUN	PRICE WATERHOUSE	ROYAL MID SURREY	48
24 JUN	SUN ELECTRIC UK LIMITED	TENNESBURY PARK	70
24 JUN	THE W M GROUP	COOMBE HILL	30
24 JUN	WILLIS TOWERS WATSON LTD	HARROGATE	60
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27 JUN	CORNHILL LIFE	MERTON GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	28
27 JUN	EDS HOLDINGS LTD	LYNSHAM	24
27 JUN	EDGE & ELLISON	LONG CLIFFE	24
27 JUN	HALL PRICE DAVISON LTD	BUCKINGHAM	24
27 JUN	I B H EDITION HALL HOSPITAL	PRESTON	24
27 JUN	INWICK RADIO GROUP	HARROGATE	48
27 JUN	JBA (UK) LIMITED	MARLBOROUGH	48
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Pressure points approach for Wimbledon favourites

TENNIS is unique in sport. No other ball game involving physical and mental stress brings the competitor into such exposed, intimate contact with the audience, for up to four hours or more. And Wimbledon is unique to tennis, the misleading gentility of grass giving a drawing-room ambience.

All great sport has a special theatrical drama: *Henry V* or *Cinderella* without knowing the outcome in advance. Seldom before has Wimbledon had, as this year, a cast of famous faces almost all of whom are worried by the uncertainties or vulnerabilities of personal grief, private intrigue, prolonged injury, advancing years or fickle form.

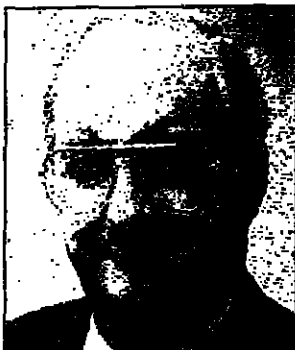
Last week Thomas Muster withdrew after aggravating a thigh injury playing in a tournament in Halle, Germany. Earlier, however, Muster had made clear his resentment that his clay-court

status was ignored by the All England Club committee, and rightly so, when making him only the No 7 seed. He should be reminded that Manuel Santana, Björn Borg and Andre Agassi have somehow managed to play at Wimbledon from the baseline.

Yet what of Pete Sampras, Boris Becker, Agassi himself, Stefan Edberg, Goran Ivanisevic, Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Michael Stich, Steffi Graf and Monica Seles? One doubt or another surrounds the nine most conspicuous players and, from midday today, their every move will be scrutinised as at no other time of the year. The rewards may be huge, but few people live their life in surroundings of such unrelenting judgment.

Sampras opens on Centre Court against his compatriot, Richey Reneberg. Beneath his outwardly level temperament lies a confusing sensitivity. As he attempts to win a fourth

DAVID MILLER



Wimbledon prospects

successive title, the inner turmoil from the death of his friend and coach, Tim Gullikson, is an imponderable factor that may undermine his endurance. Few great sportsmen are impersonal automa-

toms and the human side of Sampras may now be at odds with his professionalism.

He slumped from physical fatigue in the French Open, and though his defeat in an exhibition tournament on Saturday is of little account, we cannot know the state of his mind. Time will reveal it, but Reneberg, Mark Philippoussis, the young Australian, and Ivanisevic lie in wait to exploit any frailty.

Becker, at 28, is a veteran among the young brigade of big-hitters. Seven times in 11 years he has been in the final, winning three of them, and the menace of his serve-and-volley game was seen to be undiminished when he won at Queen's. An unusually measured man, who has made a success of a controversial mixed-race marriage, Becker finds Wimbledon an annual stimulus, his *raison d'être* and the No 2 seed will be hard to halt. He opens today against

Jean-Philippe Fleurian, of France, but can he last the pace?

Agassi, who is third on No 2 Court against his compatriot, Ken Flach, is an unknown quantity. Short of practice this year on any surface, too involved in commercial activity away from the court, he was exposed in Paris and must be unlikely to have the stamina to justify his No 3 seeding. There is the unmistakable feeling he has written off this year, over-endowed with fame if not pride.

Public loyalty will burn brightly for Edberg, saying farewell to the game at 30 — a man whose deportment is at the opposite end of the spectrum from Agassi. He rediscovered his touch to reach the final of the Stella Artois tournament, but it is probably expecting too much for him to make a fourth final on his swansong. His match today against the left-handed Guy



Sampras: inner turmoil

Forget is an unsparing start. Whatever the outcome, Edberg has been an enduring illustration of exemplary sportsmanship. A nice guy who won.

Tony Pickard, Edberg's for-

mer coach with whom he has renewed contact during his Indian summer, said yesterday: "If Stefan is going to do anything, he has to be ready first time out. A few years ago, you could keep a bit in the bank for the later rounds, but with the standard of the game as it is today, you have to be ready for anything from the start. I think he is."

Ivanisevic, a whimsical, whirlwind Croatian who has already been a losing finalist twice, and Kafelnikov, the new French champion, are both potential winners for whom, one suspects, the future lies as much in their head as in their racket. Kafelnikov can play all surfaces and is very much the man of the moment; certainly one to watch. Ivanisevic opens against Bernd Karbacher, of Germany, on No 1 Court.

Graf, joyfully triumphant in Paris, continues with the mammoth trauma of her father's impending trial on

taxation fraud and the need to put this at the back of her mind when on court. Having done so magnificently in the French Open, there is no reason why she should not do so again now, on her favourite grass surface... unless that reason is Seles.

Seles has her own trauma, though different and now receding, of personal injury, yet the talent with which she threatened to surpass Graf — a talent which precipitated the attack upon her — is once more in full flood. Allowing for doubt about her service shoulder, there is the sneaking feeling that she will be the one this year to lift the women's plate.

Although Seles hit a bad day in the quarter-finals in Paris, there is no doubting that her appetite is there, as has been apparent in the past few days. One senses a desire to prove herself all over again, and in that mood, who can stop her?

TENNIS: PRINCIPAL RIVAL TIPS GRAF TO LIFT WIMBLEDON CROWN AGAIN AFTER EASTBOURNE VICTORY

Seles keeps her prospects in perspective

Alix Ramsay finds a returning superstar still in guarded mood

IF MONICA Seles were a betting woman, she would put her five on Steffi Graf to win Wimbledon. Not that she is a betting woman. Looking into the future and wondering what could or what might be is not to her taste. It never really was, and since April 30, 1993, it never will be.

That was the day Günther Parche stabbed her in the back during a match in Hamburg and the day her life ground to a halt. At the time she was the dominant force in women's tennis. In the previous two years she had won seven of the eight grand-slam tournaments she had appeared in, only Wimbledon and its treacherous grass courts de-

feated her. While the wound took a few weeks to heal, Seles's confidence took far longer to mend. For nearly 2½ years she stayed at home and wondered if she could ever return to the peculiar life tennis players call normality.

"Deep down I knew I would be back because I loved the game so much," she said. "I didn't want to leave the game on those terms. I had worked my whole life to play tennis and I didn't want always to remember Hamburg, that this was my last game, the end of my whole career."

It is easy to forget that her "whole career" at that point was only 4½ years. She was 19 at the time of the attack, but had already won more than 30 titles, including three French Opens, three Australian Opens and two US Opens. It was a lot to live up to when she came back and the road back to the top has been painful.

"I think it comes from being dropped back in at 100 per cent speed, I never had the chance to start slowly," she said. "I've been surprised at how well I have done, especially in the grand slams, but I haven't played as much as would have liked. It's been good so far, there have been some great days in there but some have been really frustrating because of the

injuries. I was just so eager to be playing again, you just have that excitement flowing in you."

Her game was never that complicated. Double-fisted off both flanks, she clubbed the ball, and her opponent, into submission. What set her apart were her powers of concentration, her vice-like grip on her mind. That is the hardest thing to recapture. The response of the crowds has been a help — "It reassured me I had made the right decision to come back" — and a hindrance. They adore her and, in return, Seles loves them, but that in itself can be a distraction. "Sometimes I have to tell myself just to focus on

the ball and not to enjoy the crowd so much". Then there are the memories.

"After this thing happened to me, to go back to the chair on the court, to deal with it every day for however long I chose to play. And with the person not ever being punished for it, I mean... And then she stops. Seles always was, and still is, an impressive talker. Taking notes as she speaks is hopeless, she quotes come flying at you like bullets from a machine gun. Until, that is, we come back to the events in Hamburg and then even Seles slows down."

Seles feels her time away from tennis has taught her a few home truths, and she feels she has changed. "When I was away I had a different life and I realised how sheltered our life is in tennis," she said. "At every tournament there are people to do everything for you. When I go home I still have to make my own bed and do the dishes. It is so much nicer to be in a hotel and have things done for you, it's a treat. But in our life, I think we have to be careful that we stay normal and I think some players have gone over that line."

Her return to the tour was greeted officially with joy and relief, but in the locker room there are still petty resentments. These days, she shrugs them off: "People forget tennis is just a game and that we are lucky to be doing something we love." Learning



Seles smiles as she clutches the first grass-court prize of her career, the Direct Line Insurance trophy, at Eastbourne

to trust people again is difficult too. "But then there is a point where you just have to live life," she said. "To live in the present is the hardest part of it. We all want to think about the future, where will I be one year from now, will it be secure — you never actually are in the present."

The here and now for the next two weeks will be Wimbledon. She tips Graf for victory and, although she has only played at Wimbledon three times, she still feels it is special. Martina Navratilova's last final in 1994 was the first and last match she watched during her absence. "I wanted her to win so much, but I guess some things don't have story-book endings." Maybe in Seles's case it might be different.



TODAY WITH THE TIMES

A 16-page Wimbledon supplement with the draw, guide to the seeds and the chance to win a VIP trip to the women's final

Déjà vu for tired Fernandez

By Alix Ramsay

EVEN when you have beaten the best on the grandest sporting stages in the world, there is still a first time for everything. On Saturday Monica Seles won her first tournament in Britain and, more important, with the small matter of Wimbledon starting today, her first title on grass. She beat Mary Joe Fernandez 6-0, 6-2 to win the Direct Line Insurance championships in Eastbourne.

As a contest, it was too one-sided to be any real guide to form for the next two weeks. Fernandez was tired after two matches the day before but, nevertheless, Seles's performance was impressive. She had worried earlier in the week that she still could not leap on every chance and convert it as she had done in days of old. Come Saturday, the problem seemed to have been solved.

The first set was finished in 18 minutes as Seles allowed Fernandez a paltry five points. The first of those came in the third game and signalled the return of the Seles grunt. If Fernandez was determined to win a point or two, Seles was equally determined to stop her. Things got a little better in the second set as Seles relaxed and Fernandez kept her guessing with the occasional drop shot. But, once they had exchanged breaks of serve, it was business as usual for Seles.

As the Eastbourne week progressed, so Seles had progressed with it, hitting the half harder and harder and with greater accuracy. By the time she faced Fernandez, she looked more like the Seles we used to know, if a little larger around the midriff. "It was like déjà vu for me," Fernandez said. "I've lost numerous

sets to her 6-0 and this was just like the old days. If she's timing the ball well, there's not much you can do about it."

Seles claims not to remember how she was playing on her last appearance at Wimbledon four years ago. She knows she is playing pretty well and she is planning to ask Martina Navratilova for a few hints on how to be even better. "She tells me to come in to the net more, but I don't have the nerve," she said. No doubt the leading ladies of Wimbledon are hoping it stays that way.

SEEDINGS: Men: 1, P Sampras (US); 2, B Becker (Ger); 3, A Agassi (US); 4, G Ivanisevic (CRO); 5, Y Kafelnikov (RUS); 6, J Courier (US); 7, M Stich (GER); 8, T Enqvist (SWE); 9, M Skoch (GER); 10, W Ferreira (SA); 11, S Edberg (SWE); 12, T Martin (US); 13, M Rios (ARG); 14, C Panatta (ITA); 15, A Panatta (ITA); 16, C Panatta (ITA); 17, R Krajcik (HOL); 18, Womack (1, S Graf (GER); 2, M Seles (US); 3, C Martinez (ESP); 4, A Sanchez-Vizca (ESP); 5, A Huber (GER); 6, J Novotna (CZ); 7, C Rubin (US); 8, L Davenport (US); 9, M J Fernandez (US); 10, M Rionda (ESP); 11, B Schuster (AUS); 12, K Date (JPN); 13, M Parrot (FRA); 14, A Costner (SA); 15, I Moline (ROM); 16, M Rionda (ESP); 17, N Godwin (SA); 18, C Carati (HOL); 19, E Makarova (RUS); 20, M Kamenikova (SLO); 21, M Joyce (AUS); 22, A Gaudenzi (ITA); 23, K Novak (CRO); 24, M Pizzichini (HOL).

Sampras suffers Wimbledon setback

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

PETE SAMPRAS suffered a surprise straight-sets defeat by his fellow American, MaliVai Washington, on Saturday, only two days before starting his quest for a fourth successive Wimbledon title.

His 7-5, 6-2 defeat in the Quintus Cup final at Hurlingham is bound to raise further question-marks against the Wimbledon top seed. Earlier this month he pulled out of the Stella Artois Championships to rest, citing as the reason "physical and mental exhaustion" after the death of his friend and coach, Tim Gullikson.

Sampras, 24, who begins his Wimbledon defence

against another American, Richey Reneberg, appeared to drop down a gear after losing a hard-fought first set to Washington.

The qualifier, Niklas Kulti, of Sweden, defeated Yevgeny Kafelnikov, of Russia, in the final of the Halle Open grass-court tournament in Germany.

Kulti, 25, who had been plagued by a foot injury over the past year, needed two hours and three minutes to win 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 against the 22-year-old Russian.

Top seed Alberto Costa, of Spain, accused his opponent of bad sportsmanship after being beaten 6-3, 6-4 by compatriot Alberto Berasategui in the final of the Bologna men's

tournament in Italy. Costa had battled back from 0-3 to 2-3 in the first set and was one shot away from levelling the set when the umpire called his shot long.

"I was expecting that Alberto himself would rectify the decision, but he did not say anything," Costa said.

Jan Siemerink overcame gusting wind as well as his opponent to win the Nottingham Open tournament in just

under 90 minutes on Saturday.

The fifth-seeded Dutchman claimed the £27,922 top prize with a 6-3, 7-6 win over unseeded Sandon Stöle, of Australia.

Anke Huber, of Germany, won her first grass-court title when she beat Czech Helena Sukova 6-3, 7-6 in the final of the women's tournament at Rosmalen, Holland, on Saturday.

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Agassi remains a showman to the last

On the face of it, this was hardly the game of the day, let alone the game of the championship or the decade. It was riddled with errors and produced no outstanding rallies or points. But for sheer unexpurgated drama, for the suddenness of the denouement and the shocking unlikelihood of the result, the last of the 50 games that Andre Agassi and Goran Ivanisevic played on a sunny afternoon on the Centre Court four years ago is unparalleled in Wimbledon history.

For a few flickering seconds, fantasy rode roughshod over reality. It was as if Hollywood's finest scriptwriters had been let loose and ordered to concoct the most outrageous piece of fiction. Yet there before our very eyes was this scruffy little imp in white, lying face down on the hallowed turf beneath the royal box and pretending to be the Wimbledon champion. Even the umpire was dazzled by disbelief. He scored the last point to Ivanisevic.

The clock showed 5.27 on the evening of July 5, 1992, when Ivanisevic, tall and dark, stalked back to the roller end to serve at 4-5 in the final set. A few in the press box were beginning to calculate deadlines and sacrifice allegiances in the interests of a quick finish.

The flow of aces from the Croatian's racket, which at times threatened to blow holes in the little American, showed no sign of drying up. He had already served ten in four games in the final set, taking his tally for the match to 37 and a record-breaking 206 for the tournament. Agassi was within sight of victory, but such was the ease of Ivanisevic's service action the one tantalising game he needed to crown a fortnight of astonishing brilliance might as well have been placed at the far end of a minefield. He had not broken service since the first game of the third set.

Agassi's critics — and there were plenty casting around for a villain in the post-McEnroe era — already had the ending written in their minds. It had happened so many times before: flecks of genius in a tapestry of broken promises. They were surprised he had come this far, a little impressed even. They knew in their hearts, though, that once the heat rose in the

GAME, SET AND MATCH



Andrew Longmore recalls one of the most dramatic and unlikely climaxes to a men's final

kitchen Agassi would be found in the living room with a beer in his hand or at the bank depositing another huge cheque. He was rich beyond dreams, but only in money, not in the currency by which champions are measured.

Twice Agassi had reached the final of the French Open on supposedly his favourite clay surface — twice he lost. Once to the old warrior, Andre Gomez, the second time to his countryman, Jim Courier, when a break for rain broke his rhythm. He had lost the final of the US Open, too. "Image is everything," as the man said. Agassi's nerve was the consistency of tissue paper.

On his return to Wimbledon the previous year, Agassi had done little to dispel the doubts. He had played the showman to perfection, played some good tennis too, but had bowed out in the quarter-finals with one of those mystery injuries which tended to preface defeat. What no one had noticed, because they thought it was all part of the act, was how at home Agassi looked on grass.

He did not need time to adapt. His dancer's feet and gunslinger's hands suited grass better than clay and his mind reacted well to the need for instant decisions. As a child, he had been made to stand inside the baseline to receive services hit by his father from the service line, about a cricket pitch length away.

In the quarter-finals, Boris

Becker paid the price for those hours of reflex-sharpening. The three-times Wimbledon champion was helpless, humiliated. No one had ever stood that close or hit his best services that early or that hard. "He hit some shots that were not in the book," Becker said. From being an object of harmless fun, a sideshow, Agassi turned into a mainstream threat. An ageing McEnroe proved no match in the semi-final.

So it was on to Ivanisevic and another curiosity. In the face of mounting criticism of the dominance of the service and the dullness of the men's tennis, the All England Club found an improbable protector in the Las Vegas.

If Agassi won Wimbledon from the baseline against the biggest of the big servers, all would be right with the world. In the royal box, one or two officials were inwardly urging on the American, but none could have known how swiftly their hopes would be fulfilled.

A little breeze stirred the still afternoon, just enough to unsettle Ivanisevic. He threw the ball a fraction too high and lost his rhythm. A double fault, 0-15. In the stand, Bob Brent, his coach, shifted uneasily. Surely that brittle Croatian temperament would not crack now? Another double fault, 0-30. Agassi had been cruising, waiting for this moment, but the next two services were strong and Agassi had no answer, 30-30.

You wondered how long Agassi's heart would hold out. He needed another chance: a forehand pass left Ivanisevic stranded and one stroke away from defeat, 30-40. An ace, surely?

The first service dipped into the bottom of the net. The second was sharp and deep, but Agassi drilled it back. It was comfortably within reach and a comfortable height and, though Ivanisevic was not a great volleyer, on any other point he would have been good enough. But he misjudged the pace fractionally and his backhand volley smacked into the net. Agassi was champion in only his thirteenth match on grass.

TOGETHER

A set to remember



Agassi sinks to his knees, overwhelmed with emotion, at the end of a gruelling men's final that saw him prove his critics wrong and win the Wimbledon title

Commentators well matched for partiality



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

So far in Euro 96, all the signs have been that none of us give a yellow card about which broadcaster is showing which game. If England are on ITV we watch ITV, if they are on BBC we watch the afternoon with Des and the splendidly alliterative trio of Hansen, Gullit and Hill. So far, so unsurprising.

Figures show the television audience growing with England's progress through the tournament — nine million for England v Switzerland on ITV, 11 million for England v Scotland on BBC and 14.7 million for England v Holland on ITV.

Provisional overnight figures for Saturday's quarter-final between England and Spain gave the BBC an average audience of almost 15 million, which indicates that audience growth may be beginning to slow. Optimists and patriots, however, will take comfort from the fact that a peak audience of almost 18 million watched the penalty shoot-out, a figure the BBC claims is the second highest for a football match. But come Wednesday and the semi-finals, the television game changes. With both ITV and BBC showing both semi-finals live, it is make your mind up time — just as it will be for Sunday's final.

The BBC will be brimming with confidence, partly because its always does well when sport becomes a "national occasion" and partly because its coverage and, in particular, its studio panel have been so warmly received. That said, ITV has made big improvements over the past two weeks. You can question John Barnes's dress sense until someone scores a golden goal, but you can't dispute the quality of a panel that includes Kevin Keegan and Alex Ferguson, as it did on Saturday, or one that teams Ferguson with Glenn Hoddle, as it did yesterday. If ITV Sport could get an extra five minutes for chat at

either end of the game, then the BBC could really be given a run for the money it spent on Rund Gullit.

The BBC has been quick to realise that "time" is its greatest asset. On Saturday, as he did for England against Scotland, Lyman handed over to the match commentators a full 20 minutes before kick-off in a move designed to allow those of us at home to share in the increasingly extraordinary Wembley atmosphere. But once again you longed for a commentator who appreciated the sound of silence.

By his own standards, Barry Davies was positively restrained but his words added next to nothing. If England do make it to Wembley on Sunday, Niall Sloane, who has masterminded the BBC's coverage, should leave John Motson in no doubt — we want ten minutes of very noisy, very exciting "silence".

A fortnight ago, Brian Moore took a lot of criticism for his blatantly partial commentary on England versus Switzerland. Davies did a rather better job of disguising his true sentiments with some thorough research about the Spanish team. Or he did, at least until the first of Spain's disallowed goals. "Don't worry," shouted Davies, "It's offside." However, I see nothing wrong in the gently partisan approach of either commentator. Television is about entertainment, not some dry, academic exercise in absolute impartiality.

But having said that, one or two replays may cause Davies concern if he ever catches up with a videotape of Saturday's game. "That is cheating," he exclaimed authoritatively, as Alfonso went sprawling. "That looks awfully like a penalty," we all thought as we watched the replay of Gascoigne's challenge. Significantly, Trevor Brooking, who had an excellent game alongside Davies, said nothing.

Maranta repeats winning formula

BARRY MARANTA resembles a lecturer in social sciences about as much as Martin Offiah resembles a ballet dancer. But the Australian owner of the southern outpost of rugby league, the London Broncos, started his career teaching at the University of Queensland and made his first fortune writing school textbooks on sociology and modern history.

A study of either might have put him off the idea of trying to sell an avowedly northern game to a southern audience. But, having ploughed £1.5 million into the club since taking it over sixteen months ago, the man who made the Brisbane Broncos one of Australia's most successful clubs is convinced he is on to a winner.

"We didn't come over here to flush money down the toilet," Maranta explained, colourfully. "We expect it to bubble back up."

In 1987 Maranta led a consortium to bid for the first rugby league franchise in Queensland. Despite predictions it would not work, the Brisbane Broncos became a success on and off the field, winning the Australian championship in 1992 and attracting an average gate of over 43,000. Maranta has now sold out, netting \$15 million (£7.7 million) in the process.

The Brisbane formula is now being tried in London. It involves marketing the sport strongly to a female and family audience. There are day long events, entertainers, good amenities, pre-match games involving junior teams and the sort of razzmatazz usually associated with American football.

Translating this to the UK is not quite as easy. The first problem was finding a decent venue for the Broncos. Shortly after taking control of the team — then called the Crusaders — he negotiated a deal with Harlequins to play at The Stoop in west London. Maranta's views on the amenities at The Stoop — or lack of them — are not complimentary or printable. The current season's games are being played at Charlton Athletic's recently rebuilt ground at The

THE BUSINESS OF SPORT



Valley in southeast London. On the entertainment front, so far this season Broncos games have been preceded by performers as diverse as Kylie Minogue, Willie Nelson, Harry Connick Jr and the Bay City Rollers.

Then there is marketing. Maranta is convinced he can make rugby league a fashionable sport. He is talking to some leading clothing designers to have a new kit for next season and hopes to have it featured in magazines like *FHM* or *GQ*.

Finally, there is the weather. Here the move to make rugby league a summer sport is crucial. Maranta argues that to have five or six hours of entertainment around a game, you have to have nice weather. "If we were still playing in winter, I would not be interested," he says.

So how is it going in this, the first summer season? The first game, against Paris Saint-Germain, was a roaring success, attracting 9,500. The next two, against Workington and Oldham, had reasonable crowds of 4,200 and 4,500 respectively. However, only 3,500 turned up to see the Broncos destroyed by Halifax Blue Sox two weeks ago.

Maranta is hoping for a recovery for the game on Saturday against Challenge Cup finalists Bradford Bulls. But the key will be the matches later in the season against Wigan and St Helens, where he hopes for a crowd of 12,000. The target is an average gate of 6,000.

The 1996 season is a learning curve. The 1997 season will be crucial. Can Barry Maranta convert southern softies to rugby league? Don't bet against it.

JASON NISSE

BOXING

Lewis eyes Moorer showdown

By SHUKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

LENNOX LEWIS could be the next opponent for Michael Moorer, the International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight champion, if the Londoners promoters can come up with the right offer.

After Moorer lifted the title by outpointing Axel Schulz, of Germany, at Dortmund on Saturday, his manager, John Davimos, said he would be prepared to defend against Lewis if the money was right. Davimos said that he had already been approached by Don King for a unification bout with Mike Tyson and Lewis would have to improve on King's offer.

"I have four opponents in mind," Davimos said. "Mike Tyson, Lennox Lewis, Riddick Bowe and George Foreman. I have already been approached by Don King for a fight with Tyson but whoever comes up with the most money gets the fight."

"If Lennox can find the money we will fight him but I can't see his people beating King. Bowe is another very likely opponent but I think George Foreman is doubtful. That fight is up to Michael. If he wants it, it would happen."

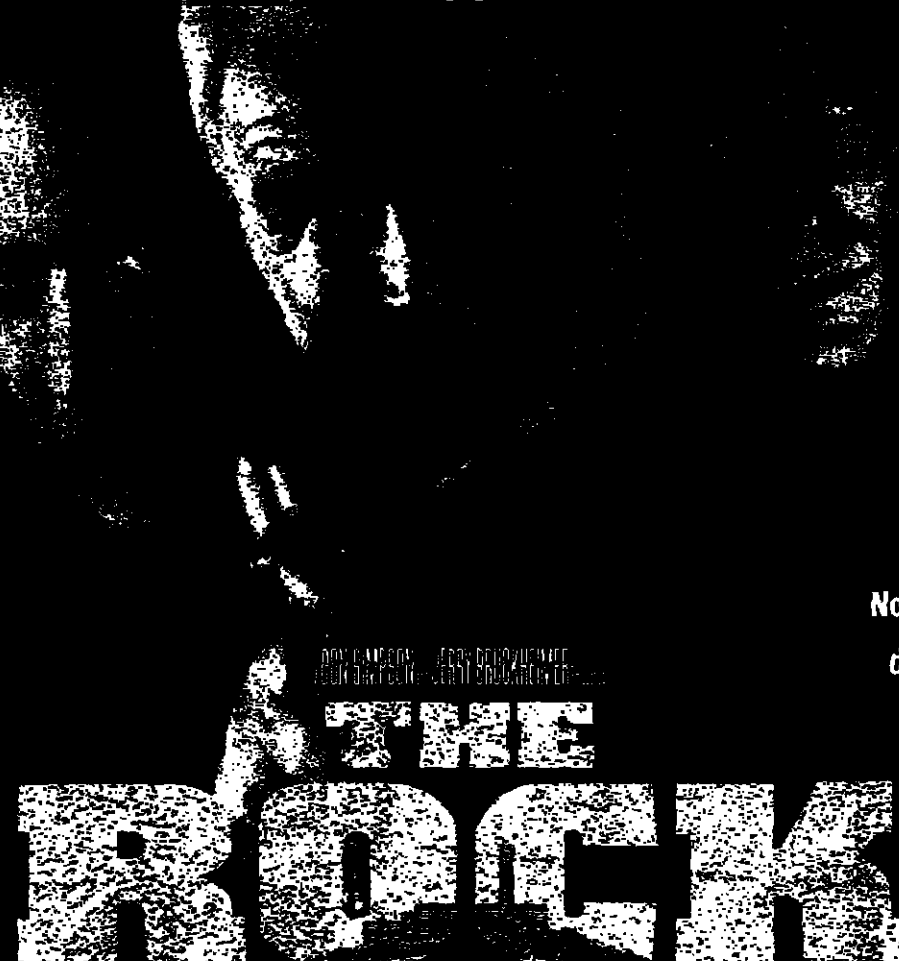
Frans Botha, of South Africa, is the mandatory challenger for Moorer's title but Davimos thinks he can be bypassed. Botha, who won the vacant IBF title last December by beating Schulz, was later stripped of it by a New Jersey court after being tested positive for anabolic steroids.

Moorer would be the ideal opponent for Lewis. He would have no trouble relieving the American of the title. The belt would also help Lewis lure Tyson into a unification contest. Lewis is considering meeting Oliver McCall for the World Boxing Council title that Tyson will be giving up in July. McCall would prove a far more difficult opponent for Lewis than Moorer.

Schulz, who was beaten by Moorer on a split decision, could now seek a third meeting with Henry Akinwande, of Britain.

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GOLF: SUPERIOR PLANNING BEHIND GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND'S CURTIS CUP VICTORY

Short-game skills no longer an American preserve

WHO would have thought, after years of indoctrination that golfers from these shores were not skilful enough around and on the green, that it should have been this very aspect of the game that underpinned Great Britain and Ireland's comfortable victory in the Curtis Cup? How the worm has turned.

Countless times down the years one has heard the Americans lauded for their wizardry from 100 yards and in. Thus it was a surprise to listen to an authoritative voice from that country attributing their fourth loss since 1984 to inferiority in areas of the game where touch is so important. "I have been to 18 matches as a player or official," Judy Bell, the president of the United States Golf Association (USGA), said. "And there is no question that your repertoire of shot-making around the greens was superb. I saw a lot of golf, believe me, and I'm in no doubt that you took fewer putts. That was the area I noticed in particular."

This was only one reason why Great Britain and Ireland won the 29th staging of this famous competition, having led the 28th. Another was the Ladies Golf Union's practice of having a team manager or a vice-captain. The latter do not always proceed to become captains but Ita Butler did at Killarney and the continuity she brought contributed significantly to her team's fourth success in the past six matches.

The United States do not think much of this vice-captain idea. Past captains and officials muck in and help as required. This seems amateurish and outdated. If Martha Lang, the United States captain, had formed a close alliance with a colleague and both had had considerable influence and experience with the team as well as the inevitable commitment to it.

JOHN HOPKINS



Golf Correspondent

she might not have made two important mistakes.

The graver of these was not to select Kelli Kuehne, the United States amateur champion, for the first day's singles, a decision she later admitted was not too clever. The second was to position Kuehne, perhaps the best player in her team, in the last singles match on Saturday afternoon. This is traditionally the position for the most resolute team member, the one considered least likely to buckle under the weight of having to win for the team's sake. But Great Britain and Ireland led 8-4 at lunchtime on Saturday and needed only one point to retain the trophy, two to regain it. Putting Kuehne out sixth in the afternoon meant that her contribution would almost certainly be too late.

As well as not believing in vice-captains, the United States team did not have anyone like Mickey Walker, the captain of the Solheim Cup team, who was the Great Britain and Ireland coach. Walker was present at the squad session last autumn and at the team session earlier this year and brought her golfing brain to bear. Her self-effacing dismissal of herself as

"another pair of eyes" can be ranked as a perfect example of British understatement.

It was striking how similarly correct in technique many of the players were. In Great Britain and Ireland's case this is due to an enlightened policy towards coaching by the Ladies Golf Union (LGU) and regional and national golf unions. It is difficult for a promising youngster to reach 18 without having had the benefit of a significant amount of free tuition.

The amateur status rules of the USGA do not permit such largesse. Furthermore, the much-vaunted college system in the United States provides little of it. Though some colleges have coaches capable of understanding and interpreting the manifold intricacies of the golf swing, many have coaches who are little more than administrators whose sole aim is to concentrate on strokeplay, to produce the best players for the next strokeplay competition. At college in the United States practice is often a low priority, coaching lower still.

The get-togethers the British and Irish players had enabled them to form a spirit that is important in an event such as this.

The Americans met after the US Women's Open but that was all. It was not sufficient for them to overcome their lack of knowledge of one another and nor did it help much in fostering relationships. The United States team was not as harmonious as it might have been.

Thus it was that the American players left Killarney yesterday with these words from Bell ringing in their ears: "We've got to work harder. Forget about the number of notches we have on our belt. The game is on now and it's terrific. I take my hat off to the British and Irish."



Moodie hails the successful birdie putt on the 16th green that clinched a win by 3 and 2 in the foursomes for herself and McKay over Booth and Ingram

RUGBY LEAGUE

Leeds rewarded for return to manual labour

Leeds 25
Castleford Tigers 18

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

DEAN BELL was like the inveterate gambler who had stuck on black until it finally came up. "We won!" the Leeds coach exclaimed to reporters who are used to seeing him with his pockets empty and jaw hanging.

Leeds are no longer the high-rollers of old, nor is Bell bankrolled as his predecessors were. Both these facts seem to have entered the collective consciousness at Headingley, and the solution apparently lies in the manual labour eschewed in recent times.

At the coalface on Saturday evening, Leeds dug deep in producing their most encouraging result of a season that was developing nightmarish proportions. Bell was also indebted to Warrington, who snatched a dramatic 26-24 win at Paris Saint-Germain. A reversal of that score would have left his side with both feet placed precariously above the relegation trap-door.

Moreover, the win has delayed Bell from putting his boots back on. "There's still plenty wrong with our game on the technical side, but if the players can keep on showing me the same fighting spirit, we can work on those other areas," he said.

This was only the second home win by Leeds in the Stones Super League and their fourth in 13 matches, a record still in need of vast improvement and reflected by an attendance that was a third of the 18,000 for the same derby fixture six months ago.

Castleford are fellow strugglers in a period of transition. Initially they maintained the form they showed in a stirring defeat of Bradford six days previously, but eventually succumbed to the will of an opposition that needed, and wanted, the win more.

The damage inflicted on

Leeds by inadequate defending that allowed Flynn to squeeze in between Holroyd and Golden, and saw Faimalo and Kemp flap hopelessly at Chapman, Castleford's second try-scorer, was partly repaired by McDermott's unstoppable charge on half-time.

McDermott can be his own worst enemy, but the big prop kept himself in check and his side motoring forward. The pack grew in stature, and with the appearances from the substitutes' bench of an admirable trio in Shaw, Mercer and Fozzard, laid the attacking platform in the second period.

There are few players who embody the work ethic better than David Hulme. Only his third game for Leeds, was marked by a feverish and infectious tackling stint when Castleford were threatening a reply to quick tries by Hall and Mercer.

A try by Flowers, after

Results and tables 40

Cummins had knocked on at the other end, briefly reasserted Castleford's control, but it was one of the visitors' former players who won the game for Leeds after the third of Holroyd's four goals levelled matters. Kemp glided past three tackles in a mazy run out of defence. Tait carried it on and Golden rolled out of Chapman's tackle to score beneath the posts.

Holroyd's late dropped goal forestalled another Castleford comeback, enabling Bell to count his chips and sport a satisfied smile for once.

SCORES: Leeds: Tries: McDermott, Hall, Mercer, Golden. Goals: Holroyd (4). Dropped goal: Holroyd. Castleford: Tries: Chapman, Flowers. Goals: Bolton (3). LEADS: G. Holroyd, M. Golden, F. Cummins, C. Hall, P. Hession, T. Kemp, D. Clark, B. McDermott, T. Newson, E. Faimalo, G. Mercer, D. Hulme, Substitutes: M. Shaw, G. Mercer, N. Fozzard, A. Tait. CASTLEFORD TIGERS: T. Flowers, C. Smith, D. Chapman, G. Edwards, J. Anderson, F. Bolton, L. Crooks, C. Marshall, N. Sykes, J. Paramore, A. Schick, B. Tait, Substitutes: J. Smith, D. Sampson, I. Tonks, D. Furness. Referee: W. Hargan (Sydney).

Slick Keighley justify promotion thrust

Keighley Cougars 42
Rochdale Hornets 12

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

REMEMBER Keighley Cougars? They won the second division last year, only for promotion to be denied them by the advent of a pared-down elite in the new Super League.

The Cougars, aggrieved at having had what they saw as a rightful place in the top flight taken away, sought legal advice. A year on, however, destiny is just about in their own hands, but three points short of an impressive Salford side, games are running out for them to claim the one promotion place from the first division.

The injustice Keighley still feel has been inflamed by applications from South Wales and Huddersfield for "fast tracking" into the Super League next year. They were playing their way in, until beaten heavily by Salford and their runaway win against bottom-placed Rochdale yesterday got them over a damaging away defeat at Dewsbury.

Keighley's average 5,100 support is bigger than at four Super League clubs and is on a par with two others. In terms of pre-match entertainment, the majority could take a leaf out of Keighley's book.

Injuries have hindered progress all season, but with his first fully fit side, Phil Larder, the Keighley and England coach, was content at the way his backs tore open a compliant Rochdale with eight tries. Sterling defence frustrated Rochdale until Sharp and Pitt exploited gaps near the end of the match. The visitors had Agar sent off as tempers frayed, which compounded their problems. Relegation to the second division faces them after only one win.

Keighley's pace left Rochdale panting. Pinkney, on the right wing, claimed a hat-trick of tries, and Critchley, on the left, a pair. Foster, in spite of being a victim of Agar's high tackle, also got two, and Irving the other.

SCORES: Keighley: Tries: Pinkney (3), Critchley (2), Foster (2), Irving. Goals: Darrin (3). Rochdale: Tries: Sharp, Pitt. Goals: Turner (2).

KEIGHLEY COUGARS: K. Doherty, N. Pinkney, S. Irving, A. King, J. Critchley, D. Powell, D. Larder, S. Hall, J. Ramshaw, G. Dooney, D. Fieley, D. Lander, M. Wood, Substitutes: G. Gale, M. Foster, P. Canham, S. Wray. ROCHDALE HORNETS: Bossy, H. Sharp, R. Agar, K. Morrison, C. Diggle, W. Reed, N. Flanagan, M. Meadows, M. Kay, T. Morrissey, N. Nuttall, S. Mawhood, K. Morrison, Substitutes: S. Tupaea, D. Pitt, S. Turner, C. Hylton. Referee: S. Gannon (St Helens).

Blooming Rose a thorn in United States' side

THE name is Rose. Alison Rose. The self-effacing bank official from Stirling will never announce herself with the arrogance of Sean Connery playing James Bond — after all, the Bank of Scotland is not the secret service — but in Curtis Cup circles, from now on hers is a name that will command total respect.

At the Killarney Golf and Fishing Club last Friday and Saturday, in front of colourful hordes of spectators — over two days the figure approached 20,000 — the Scot, 28 last week, was a blooming marvel as she and her team-

mates revelled in the occasion. Rose won all four of her matches and her demolition of Ellen Port in the singles on Saturday afternoon ensured that Great Britain and Ireland defeated the United States for the third time in the past five matches to retain the cup.

The final margin was 11-6-6, but, in fact, the match was quickly settled with the home side needing only 1½ points from the final six singles after winning the foursomes 2-1. The team was well led by the experienced Ita Butler, aided and abetted by a vice-captain, Gladys Cadden, and much more *au fait* with the art of

Patricia Davies on a famous victory for Great Britain and Ireland's amateurs

captaincy than her opposite number Martha Lang (playing Kelli Kuehne, the US champion, in the last match when early points were vital was inexplicable). Rose and Lisa Dermott, the ebullient Welsh champion, who won the two matches she played, came from two down after winning the first two holes to win. In the top match, Janice Moodie and Mhairi McKay, who supplied 6½ points out of eight between them and were both unbeaten, saw off the opposition when Moodie holed an outrageous 50-foot putt on the 16th green.

Moodie, the heroine of Chattanooga two years ago when she won the final match in spectacular style, was again the "anchorwoman", but her victory over Kuehne was less vital because Rose and Elaine Ratcliffe, from Cheshire, another unbeaten on her debut, had secured the overall win some time before.

Rose, who "putted like God" according to Dermott, broke Port with four birdies in five holes from the 5th to turn six up. When the match finished on the 13th, to a spirited if luteless rendering of *Flower of Scotland*, the cup was won. For Ratcliffe, two matches ahead, could not be beaten by Sarah Lebrun Ingram. Ratcliffe lost her concentration — and the next two holes — before rolling home a tricky five-foot putt on the 17th to set the seal on a wonderful team performance.

The newcomers — Dermott, Ratcliffe, Karen Staples, who won one and lost one

and Rose, who joined Trish Johnson as the only other British and Irish player to win all four games in a Curtis Cup — could scarcely have contributed more.

Julie Hall, the British champion, lost all four of her matches but retired on a high note. In her fifth consecutive appearance, it was the team's third win, with one match halved and only one lost. Hall and Lisa Educate, who was also pointless, helped establish the standard of excellence that has made GB & I more than a match for the US of A and set off a night of celebration in Killarney.

before, but my record in four rounds is not excellent," he said. "It would have been nice to have proved to my peers that I could win over 72 holes. But a win is a win: it's like a dream come true."

He received only 75 per cent of the original prize-money, but, in a sense, the drop in pay was an incidental. He will receive the full two-year PGA European Tour exemption, while his £87,495 prize was nearly £30,000 more than he has previously won in an entire season.

Farry reigns over short distance

A WEEKEND of torrential rain proved too much for the St Eustach course in Munich to absorb yesterday and by 3.30, Mike Stewart, the tournament director of the BMW International Open, was forced to cancel the third round and the rest of the event (Mel Webb writes). It left Marc Farry, of France, the winner with a 36-hole total of 132, 12 under par.

Farry finished two strokes ahead of Richard Green and three ahead of Russell Claydon, Padraig Harrington and David Higgins. "Sat-

urday's rain was unfortunate in that it left only four tees and one green unplayable, but the fact that we had to call the day's play off prematurely put tremendous pressure on us today," Stewart said. "Although we got a couple of hours' play this morning, one terrible shower brought us off, and each succeeding shower just topped the course up."

Farry was left a happy man, although, he said, he would have liked to have won over the full distance. "I have had good scores over 36 holes

before, but my record in four rounds is not excellent," he said. "It would have been nice to have proved to my peers that I could win over 72 holes. But a win is a win: it's like a dream come true."

He received only 75 per cent of the original prize-money, but, in a sense, the drop in pay was an incidental. He will receive the full two-year PGA European Tour exemption, while his £87,495 prize was nearly £30,000 more than he has previously won in an entire season.

HOCKEY

Britain cut down to size

GREAT Britain had little time to bask in reflected glory when the four-nations hockey tournament for the NCM Trophy ended in Amsterdam yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes).

After a morale boosting 1-0 victory over Pakistan on the previous day, they lost 3-0 to the same team in the play-off for third place. The tournament was won by Holland, who defeated Germany 2-0 in the final.

Britain allowed a couple of early chances to slip away before Pakistan took control with the centre forward, Mohammed Anis, scoring the first goal in the nineteenth minute and adding another seven minutes later.

Pakistan made the game safe in the 55th minute with a goal by the inside left, Mohammed Shahbaz. The few shots taken by Britain were easily saved and Giles hit a post.

Scotland must learn lessons

New Zealand 36
Scotland 12

FROM MARK SOUSTER IN AUCKLAND

THE Scotland squad arrives back in Edinburgh this morning at the end of its fourth tour to New Zealand full of missionary zeal, knowing, after losing both internationals, that the domestic game must radically change. To a large extent, it is the squad's responsibility to ensure that the lessons learnt on this tour, which ended at Eden Park on Saturday, are not ignored.

The country's leading players need to be exposed to high-pressure provincial rugby through the enhanced European Cup competition. For that to happen, clubs will have to accept a back seat. Whether they will is another story.

Jim Telfer, the tour manager and the Scottish Rugby Union's director of rugby, insists that they will have to,

and he has allies in senior players who understand that petty self-interest can no longer be allowed to dictate the shape of the domestic game.

"We can't let that happen. It's up to us all to work together to shape and change the game for the future," Scott Hastings, Scotland's most-capped international, said yesterday. "I was part of the Scotland squad in 1992 in Australia; we came back then thinking the game had to change. Nothing happened. This time we have got to learn the lessons of what is happening in the southern hemisphere and take it home and make the game change. We have got the players, the attitude, the commitment and the fitness. What we need is a structure which allows the players to play at as high a level as possible."

Nobody who has been here for the past month can have failed to have been persuaded by the force of the argument — that the New Zealand model of

competitive top-level provincial rugby for the cream of the country's playing talent is the answer for Scotland.

Having opted to play into the wind and rain, Scotland performed superbly to reach half-time only 17-7 down. They had dominated lineouts and the loose, but were clearly second best in the scrum, from where four of New Zealand's five tries were scored.

SCORES: New Zealand: Tries: Jordie (3), M. Jones, Z. Brooke, penalty try; Conversions: Melrose (4). Penalty goals: Morrison: Scotland: Tries: Shepherd, P. Jones; Conversions: Shepherd.

NEW ZEALAND: C. Cullen (Manawatu), J. Wilson (Taranaki), F. Benge (North Harbour), L. Little (North Harbour), E. Nash (North Harbour), A. McIntyre (Canterbury), J. Marshall (Canterbury), C. Dowd (Auckland), S. Fitzpatrick (Auckland), captain, O. Brown (Auckland), M. Jones (Auckland), J. Jones (North Harbour), R. Brooke (Auckland), J. Norfield (Otago), Z. Brooke (Auckland), W. Mason (Auckland), A. Cashmore (Auckland, 6th).

SCOTLAND: R. Shepherd (Melrose), A. Stanger (Hawick), S. Hastings (Melrose), J. Jardine (Glasgow Country), K. Logan (Glasgow Country), G. Towers (Northampton), G. Armstrong (Newcastle), D. Hilton (Bath), K. McKenzie (Glasgow Country), B. Stewart (Edinburgh Academical), R. Wainwright (Warrington), captain, G. Weir (Newcastle), D. Cronin (Bourges), J. Smith (Gloucester), E. Patten (Bath), Jardine (replaced by D. Black (Melrose, 25)). Referee: W. Erickson (Auckland).

Saracens net Bracken

KYRAN BRACKEN, the England scrum half, will be playing alongside Philippe Sella and Michael Lynagh, the France and Australia internationals, for Saracens next season. Bracken has left Bristol after failing to meet a deadline, set by the club, to sign a one-year contract after verbally agreeing a couple of weeks ago, and chose Saracens after also speaking to representatives of Bath.

Saracens are unwilling to disclose details of Bracken's contract, but Mike Smith, the club chief executive, said: "We hope it will be a long relationship. Bracken is a very talented player and he believes his best chance of regaining his place in the England side is with us."

Bristol are actively seeking a replacement, having anticipated the possible loss of Bracken. Ben Harvey, another of their scrum halves, recently joined Richmond.

Forward frailties put Wales under pressure

Australia 42
Wales 3

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE size of Wales's problem was apparent before they left for Australia. When their tour ended at the Sydney Football Stadium on Saturday, their impressive youngsters were able to appreciate at first hand how far they have yet to travel just to catch up.

"We must learn from the lessons on and off the field," Terry Cobner, the Wales manager, said. "but I would like to offer a warning to the southern hemisphere: you can't afford to lose us because, if northern-hemisphere rugby goes off the boil, any ideas of world development will be frittered away."

Even so, the onus lies with the north to put their competitive structure in order. Tech-

nique and attitude will take Wales so far, but, until they can also offer powerful, dynamic runners among the forwards, they will struggle. Wales had only one penalty attempt all evening and their best chance of a try came from an interception by Davies, snuffed out by Campese's tackle on Jenkins.

SCORES: Australia: Tries: Fagan, Burke, Ball, Foley, 100-200, Moran. Conversions: Burke (2). Eales. Penalty goals: Burke (3). WATERS: Penalties goal: Jenkins. AUSTRALIA: M. C. Burke (NSW), B. Taine (Queensland), J. Ball (ACT), T. J. Hearn (Queensland), D. I. Campese (NSW), P. W. Howard (ACT), S. Payne (NSW), R. Harty (NSW), M. Capone (ACT), E. J. A. McKee (ACT), O. Friesen (ACT), G. J. Morgan (Queensland), J. A. Eales (Queensland), captain, D. J. Wilson (Queensland), M. C. Ball (NSW), McKee replaced by D. Crowley (Queensland), 11th; Capone replaced by M. A. Foley (Queensland), 42; Burke replaced by S. Larham (ACT), 60; Foley replaced by D. Mann (NSW), 76.

WALES: W. T. Proctor (Llanelli), J. C. Evans (Llanelli), G. Thomas (Pontypridd), N. G. Davies (Llanelli), S. D. Hill (Cardiff), N. R. Jenkins (Pontypridd), R. Hester (Bridgend), C. D. Loader (Swansea), J. M. Humphreys (Cardiff), captain, L. Muesel (Cardiff), A. Gibb (Cardiff), G. G. Lewis (Cardiff), J. H. Taylor (Cardiff), Davies replaced by D. Jones (Bridgend), 84, A. P. Lewis (Cardiff) temporary replacement for Loader. Referee: C. J. Hawke (New Zealand).

Packer lifts Queen's Cup

THE high-goal, Alfred Dunhill-sponsored Queen's Cup, the Guards Polo Club's premier trophy, was won at Smith's Lawn yesterday by Kerry Packer's squad, Ellerton White, with an 8-6 victory against Alcatel, put together by the Canadian player, John-Watson Marconi (John Watson writes).

Both sides were built around South American duos, Xavier Novillo and Gonzalo Pieres for Ellerton, and Pici Alberdi and Gabriel Donoso for Alcatel. Ellerton's partnership had the edge throughout. They also had a sharp Englishman at one, Julian Daniels, who contributed three goals.

The Queen presented the cup to Packer, whose mare, Chusma was awarded the prize for best playing pony.

ELLERTON: 1. Johnny Daniels (3), 2. X Novillo (6), 3. G. Pieres (10), Back: K. Packer (11). ALCATEL: 1. J-W Marconi (1), 2. G. Donoso (8), 3. A. Alberdi (10), Back: S. Southwell (3).

Hopes and Jol with At



IN BRIEF

Rand races away with British title

THE Rand races, which were held at the Rand Racecourse in Johannesburg, South Africa, on Sunday, June 23, 1996, saw a British rider, David Cook, win the main event, the Rand Cup, by a margin of 1.5 seconds over the second-placed rider, John-Tan.

The Indian rider, who was also the winner of the Rand Cup in 1995, was unable to finish the race due to a fall. The race was won by Cook, who was riding for the British team, by a margin of 1.5 seconds over the second-placed rider, John-Tan.

POWERBOAT The powerboat race, which was held at the Rand Racecourse in Johannesburg, South Africa, on Sunday, June 23, 1996, saw a British rider, David Cook, win the main event, the Rand Cup, by a margin of 1.5 seconds over the second-placed rider, John-Tan.

rewarded
return to
labour

ATHLETICS

Hopes of O'Brien and Johnson gone with Atlanta wind

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN ATLANTA

THE anticipation was missing in the stadium announcer's voice as he set the scene for the decathlon climax. "Dan O'Brien has a world record score for nine events," he said, all matter-of-fact. He may have suspected, like everybody else who had studied O'Brien, what was coming next.

The 1,500 metres, the last of the decathlon's ten disciplines, has become O'Brien's traditional penalty shoot-out and one that he normally loses. On Saturday, again, in the United States Olympic trials, he was Stuart Pearce (Italy 90 rather than Pearce Euro 96).

On at least two previous occasions a listless 1,500 metres has cost O'Brien a world record. This time he did not just look frightened of the ball but closed his eyes to it. He was nine points ahead of record schedule, needing a 1,500 metres in 4min 43.64sec to improve the record he has held since 1992, when, with 8,891 points, he added 44 points to Daley Thompson's mark.

O'Brien, three times the world champion, has run 4min 33.19sec in a decathlon, but here sauntered round in 5min 12.01sec. Even on the first lap, when he might have been expected to test his reserves, he looked not at all interested in putting himself out.

He denied this at first,

saying that "absolutely" he had gone into the last event determined to break the record. However, a few minutes later he changed his tune. "For me, to make a more positive effort I need to do more things in practice," O'Brien added. When, though?

As long ago as 1991, when, at the world championships, he missed Thompson's record because of a low-scoring 1,500 metres, he was promising to take the event seriously and "really work at it". But he has yet to fulfil that promise.

Results 40

There were, arguably, mitigating circumstances here: a decathlon spanning 29 hours, rather than the 36 he will have for the Olympics, the last event held under late-afternoon sun rather than in the evening. "My good 1,500s have come in the evenings, when it was cooler," O'Brien said. "I can see myself trying to push myself in the games." With a 9pm finish he should feel more comfortable.

At various stages of his life, O'Brien has had to deal with being an adopted child, a heavy drinker, a regular pot-smoker and being hyperactive, requiring medication for a condition known as atten-

tion deficit disorder. Yet he has not been able to overcome his fear of the 1,500 metres.

As he built up a fabulous score, highlighted by a 400 metres in 46.81sec and a 65.22 metre javelin throw, one recalled his comments from two days before the decathlon started: "I try not to think about the 1,500 metres. My mistake in the past has been that I think about the 1,500 metres until I get there and I get this nervous tension building up."

For seven events, O'Brien trailed Chris Huffins. And so to the pole vault, the eighth event, which any student of Olympic commercial history will have some knowledge of. Reebok mounted a \$25 million (about £16 million) television and print advertising campaign based on "Dan and Dave", a hyped up argument over whether O'Brien or Dave Johnson, another American, was the best athlete in the world in 1992. "To be settled in Barcelona," ran the theme.

The campaign crashed when O'Brien failed to clear a height in the pole vault at the trials and did not make the Olympic team. His response was to go out three months later and, with one of his better 1,500 metres, in 4min 42.10sec, break the world record. There will be no delayed Dan versus Dave this year. While O'Brien won with 8,726 points, Johnson, third in Barcelona, was sixth with 8,189, failing to make the team.

O'Brien's apparent ambivalence towards the world record was in contrast to Michael Johnson's elation at setting one. Or at least he thought he had. Johnson celebrated long, even gave a television interview, before realising that his 19.70sec 200 metres - 0.02sec inside Pietro Mennea's set 17 years ago - was gone with the following wind in Scarlet's home town.



Johnson, deprived of a world record by the following wind



Somerville, rowing in the College Eights, were beaten in the quarter-final by Nottingham University, the eventual winners

Dublin success secures Henley first

BY MIKE ROSEWELL

IRISH eyes were smiling at Henley yesterday when University College, Dublin, took the premier eights trophy abroad for the first time since 1989 in the ninth Henley Women's Regatta, holding off a strong American charge from Temple University in the final. Earlier, the British challenge in the School Eights evaporated when Lady Eleanor Holles, the national schools champions, were

edged out by the eventual winners, St Paul's, of the United States, in a record-breaking semi-final, and a hat-trick of overseas victories was completed by Dublin University in the College Fours.

British crews held off challenges from 13 other overseas boats in the other 15 events, exhibiting a continued escalation in the standard of women's club and college rowing, not least at Nottingham University, where five years of

coaching by Adrian Roberts, a former England international, saw two Nottingham crews in the semi-final of the 23-crew College Eights.

Newcastle University, with two 1995 Henley medal winners in the stern, had looked strong in shrugging aside American and British opponents in earlier rounds, but Nottingham built up a two-length cushion over the 1,500 metre course. Imperial College, racing in the Club Eights, as their crew was composed of

past and present students, had an even bigger cushion in their final, but still clocked the fastest time of the day.

Sue Appelboom, 33, was the star sculler of the Regatta, winning the lightweight event for the seventh year running yesterday, in a time 16 seconds faster than the Open winner, Alison Mowbray, a Cambridge Blue, who held off an American challenge from Elizabeth Gordon.

Appelboom's coach, Tony James, who has watched his protégé win at both Cologne and Hazeewinkel Regattas this year, is hopeful that Appelboom will be selected again for the World Championships in August. "I have not seen anyone in Europe this year that she cannot beat," he said.

Female scullers at the other end of the age scale also showed promise. Lucy Heise and Francis Haughton, of King's Canterbury, the National Schools winners, won the Junior Doubles final against their club-mates, Zoe Arthur and Saskia Stirling-Aird. Heise and Haughton - who is 15 years old and 6ft 4in - are presently in the frame for Junior selection for Britain this year.

Spratley faces Henley dilemma

TEN men and one woman from Oxford Brookes University achieved the distinction of winning every full-course open rowing event at Marlow Regatta on Saturday, presenting the coach, Richard Spratley, with the problem of deciding his priorities for Henley Royal Regatta (Mike Rosewell writes).

After winning the coxed and coxless fours, the same eight went on to take the open eight in the fastest time of the day. Brookes are entered in all four categories at Henley. The American coach, Justin Moore, has no such problems

for his Yale University crew, which won the senior one eight category. Entered in the Temple Cup at Henley, his unbeaten freshman crew took on, and beat, Henley hopefuls from Eton, Newcastle University and Princeton. Eton pushed Yale hardest in the first round and Newcastle were compensated with an open sprint success, but Moore, conscious that his present crew is here in the centenary year of Yale's first appearance at Henley, said: "We have our hands full, but hopefully, we will live up to our billing."

Mark McCusker, Yale's No 3, who is "doing a great job" according to Moore, is a former St Paul's School product and watched his schoolboy successors win the senior two eights.

The St Paul's coach, Tim Mortland, whose crew won the schools head but was bettered by Eton and Hampton at the national schools event, did not conceal his happiness that Eton's first eight have not entered the Princess Elizabeth Cup at Henley.

Results, page 40

IN BRIEF

Rand races away with British title

THE 138-mile British road race championship, based on Aberavenny, produced a surprise champion, David Rand, from Hampshire, yesterday who won a three-man sprint at the end of a breakaway, originally 14-strong, which went clear after only eight miles (Peter Bryan writes).

He beat Andy Naylor and David Cook with a winning time of 5hr 32min 18sec when the trio just managed to hold off an attack by a chasing group that included defending champion and Rand's team colleague, Simon Bray.

The result left Olympic selectors with a problem with no resolved last night. With one place still vacant for the Atlanta road squad, the new champion was not immediately named to join Chris Boardman, Max Sciandri, John Tanner and Brian Smith.

□ **BOWLS:** Margaret Johnston of Ireland, the world champion, will play Nina Shipperlee, of Wales, in the singles final of the British championships at Leamington Spa today. Shipperlee defeated Janet Newman, the English champion, 25-20. Scotland regained the home international title with a superior shots difference over Wales.

□ **POWERBOATING:** The fifth round of the World Formula Three championships was delayed because of bad weather on Lake Lugano, Switzerland yesterday. When the wind abated Rudolf Mihaldinecz, from Hungary, scored his fifth consecutive victory in the title chase.

□ **MOTOR RACING:** Ralph Firman, of Great Britain, extended his lead over Guy Smith at the halfway stage in the British Formula Three Championship after finishing second to Kurt Mollekens at Donington Park yesterday.

Loveman tailor-made for Haberdashers' success

BY JENNIFER COX

WHEN a new coach arrived seven years ago the lacrosse team at Haberdashers' Aske's Girls School was unknown. Ruth Loveman made them play whatever the weather and rarely gave praise, but the team now worship the ground on which she walks. Under Loveman's instruction the under-18s claimed the national championship last March for the third year running and are preparing for their first international competition in six years.

Flushed with success, the team visit Canada next month to test their skills against one of the strongest lacrosse nations. Loveman expects to win every game at the Canadian national championships in July. "They are extremely fit and an excellent team," she said. "I certainly wouldn't like to take them on."

When she first arrived at the school in 1990 Loveman toured Australia with the team. It is an occasion she would rather not recall. "It was absolutely dreadful. I didn't enjoy it and we did very badly," she said. "I knew after that tour the girls had to be much fitter if they were going to do well internationally."

In season they now train four times a week, play match-



IN SCHOOLS

es each weekend and run in their spare time. According to their coach the girls are as fit, if not fitter, than the Australian team they lost to in 1990.

The recent success has been built on with an enthusiasm for playing well and the development of a balanced, dedicated team. The English Lacrosse Association believes a lack of players who can work together is the most common downfall in school lacrosse. Loveman, though, feels she is fortunate to be coaching highly-talented girls.

"Teaching them advanced tactics is so easy," she said. "They pick up things quickly." She is also grateful for the superb facilities afforded by the school as well as having a physical education timetable that favours her sport. Playing abroad will be a bonus.

"They spend a lot of time

playing teams just a few miles from here. Overseas they have different systems, other skills," she said. Although used to playing with plastic sticks the team will have to adapt to using wooden ones in Canada, but their coach said that would not faze them.

"Once they play their first match the girls will realise it's not as difficult as they're expecting. They know they are a good team."

When not coaching or playing matches herself Loveman visits other clubs and schools, watching teams and meeting opposition players. Beady Hill, the team captain, said: "She learns their weaknesses and then teaches us how to play to them."

They have a tremendous admiration for her knowledge of the game and losing is like letting her down. Hill recalled a match they were losing without their coach there to cheer them on. "During half-time we got together and said: 'We had to win for her.' We did."

Such dedication has grown from a mutual respect. Loveman once rang her team captain from holiday to check on how she had got on playing for the national junior team. Her girls will do almost anything she asks.

"When it is cold, miserable and wet outside and she wants us to play, we don't mind," Hill said. "We are a strong team now who love the game." Constructive criticism is favoured over praise, and Loveman tells the girls when they have played badly. But wearing a tracksuit matching that of her players and with her hair in a ponytail she behaves as one of the team and lets them "mess about" now and again.

"Other schools with strict teachers think we are mad," Emma Chandler, the vice-captain, said. "They can't understand how we can have so much fun and do so well."



Ruth Loveman, fourth left, practises with her team

SPORTS LETTERS

Scientific aid for football

From the Director General of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers

Sir, While controversy is still generated over whether the ball has crossed the goal line or not, surely it is time for football to catch up with the times.

Instant video replay must become available to the referee or other judges, as it has in cricket, but there needs to be a further leap of imagination.

Cannot small cameras be unobtrusively embedded into the posts and crossbars of each goal, to video all activity in the vertical plane above the goal line? An example of mechanical and electrical engineering meeting the needs of millions?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD A. PIKE,
Director General, Institution of Mechanical Engineers,
1 Birdcage Walk, SW1.

From Mr J. P. Bridgman

Sir, Fifa, the international football federation, should introduce the "sin bin" to all games. While watching Euro 96, it becomes obvious that many players with talent get chopped down regardless. The elbows and flailing arms, shirt-tugging and blatant pushing in the back, although often securing a free kick for the recipient's team, is not enough to prevent the offence from happening again.

Yellow cards being shown by the referee are not enough punishment, whereas five or ten minutes off the field would surely have a better effect. Also a player who got two "sin bins" could be suspended for a match. This, of course, is only the same as the red card, but the time missing from the game could easily reflect on the result, which may lead to a cleaner game.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. BRIDGMAN,
8 Widdow Road,
Hunsdon,
Hertfordshire.

Gascoigne answers critics

From Mr Mel Stein

Sir, I, and those around Paul Gascoigne, have restrained ourselves from writing to the press with a reply to the vitriolic campaign that has been directed against him.

However, I cannot let pass David Miller's article (June 14). Against the background of Paul's superb goal (and generally impressive all-round performance) against Scotland let us examine Miller's pre-match analysis, headed "Why England must discard their joker now".

According to Miller: "It was apparent that Paul Gascoigne had become a liability long before the ill-fated 'Cathay Pacific flight.' Quite why Miller persists in suggesting that Gascoigne was responsible for anything that occurred on board that flight is difficult to understand when he offers no evidence to support his claim. Miller continues: 'Last year

it was clear that Gascoigne could not last a match; not even two thirds of a match.' Clearly the Rangers manager, Walter Smith, thought differently as I cannot recall a single incident after the first month of the season when Paul was actually substituted for lack of fitness.

It is simply untrue to suggest that Paul is "an unfit player" and it is equally scurrilous to suggest that he "had become unfit to represent England, in body and mind". With all due respect to Steve McManaman or Jamie Redknapp, if Terry Venables had followed Miller's suggestion that Paul's role should be given to either of them, is he really suggesting that such a goal as scored Wembley in the match against Scotland would have been scored?

Yours faithfully,
MEL STEIN,
50 Meadoway,
Southgate, N14.

Dance to new tune

From Mr J. M. Flores

Sir, If "stamina, endurance, technical expertise and skill" and "crowds" (report, June 3) are sufficient to make a sport, then ballet, flying trapeze and many other skilful, demanding and even dangerous activities have as great a right as ballroom dancing to demand inclusion in the Olympics.

It is not necessary to dismiss ballroom dancing as "a tea-time leisure activity" to feel that it and its like have less right to be included than real sports where results can be weighed, measured, counted or timed, and where marks cannot be awarded on the basis of artistic interpretation or deducted for a costume which is too revealing. Unfortunately, the number of Olympic participants is limited, so that every additional doubtfully-sporting event allowed in increases the pressure to push out real sports such as fencing.

Perhaps the time has come for a campaign for real sport, coupled with a drive to create an equivalent to the Olympics to meet the understandable aspirations of dancers.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. FLORES,
4 Ruvigny Mansions,
Embankment, Putney, SW15.

Putting it right

From Mr Peter Grosvenor

Sir, In his entertaining piece on Royal Wimbledon's putting tournament (June 7) Clement Freud's praise of "an exceptionally beautiful country course" will be echoed by many. But he cannot be allowed to get away with his claim that Wimbledon invented the Hillbilly.

This delightful hot weather drink, combining sweetness with piquancy and ideally made from grapefruit juice, soda water, lemonade and Angostura Bitters, was in fact the concoction of Tony Hills.

EQUESTRIANISM

Latta makes impression in Olympic warm-up

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

VICKY LATTA, of New Zealand, had a superb final outing before Atlanta at the Sennia Milton Keynes Horse Trials in Northamptonshire yesterday when she won the advanced section on her Olympic contender, Broadcast Run, and was runner-up on her second horse Home Run.

"I'm absolutely delighted with both of them," the Gatcombe-based Latta said. "It was a fair test over an excellent course - you really had to think all the way round."

Latta's compatriot, Blythe Tait, the former world champion, was no less delighted with his Olympic contender, Team Toggys' Chesterfield, finishing fourth in the same section behind Sue Chadwick on Sam Wells. The two riders finished on the same score but Tait, taking it gently, had 18 time faults whereas Chadwick had only eight, the fastest round of the day.

Tait, who will take Ready Teddy to Atlanta as well as Chesterfield, also won Section J of the BEIB Open intermediate on Sam Barr's Welton Envoy.

Britain's Olympic rider, William Fox-Pitt, withdrew from the cross-country, as he had always intended to do - on Cosmopolitan but was well pleased with his showjumping and dressage. "He's a little over exuberant but that's probably a good thing at this stage," Fox-Pitt said. They had one fence down in the showjumping and collected three time faults after Fox-Pitt, who had a total of six rides over the weekend, momentarily forgot the way.

Although some riders thought more could have been done to improve the game there was a dramatic improvement from last year. Frank Andrew, the organiser, had had sand put down on all the pick-offs and landings and had rotated the beginning and end of the course.

William Funnell led Great Britain to an impressive Nations' Cup win in Modena, Italy, yesterday. Funnell, on the Olympic shortlist, spearheaded the win at the Pavarotti International show with a double clear on Comex. The 30-year-old Surrey rider was also runner-up with Comex in Friday's Grand Prix, recording three clears to earn a £35,000 second prize.

Results, page 40

Strength of Jones's faith

From Mr Geoff McCartney

Sir, So John Hopkins finds US Open golf champion Steve Jones paying tribute to his Christian faith wearsome (June 18). Granted, religious beliefs don't equate to good copy, but Jones was hardly guilty of delivering a holier-than-thou sermon. In thanking God he was merely illustrating that for certain sports people their faith gives them mental fortitude.

We are forever reminded that a golfer's psychological resolve in a major championship is of vital importance (ask Greg Norman) so anything which has a positive bearing on someone's state of mind is relevant in this context - however mundane that may appear.

No doubt if Bernhard Langer were to blame the Almighty for his latest bout of putting woes it would make for colourful reportage. Until someone or something more diverting comes along, perhaps your correspondent could concentrate on the golf and refrain from such comments.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFF MCCARTNEY,
25 Grantham Park,
Portadown,
Co Armagh.

steward of Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club for a quarter of a century until his retirement in 1987.

It is named after him. Unlike most drinks consumed at golf clubs it can be drunk by the pint without troubling the Breathalyzer.

Yours faithfully,
PETER GROSVENOR
former captain of
Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club,
46 King Henry's Road, NW3.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-762 5211. They should include a daytime telephone number.

RACING: DERBY WINNER CLEARED TO RENEW RIVALRY WITH DUSHYANTOR IN IRISH CLASSIC

Shaamit 6-4 for Curragh showdown

By JULIAN MUSCAT

ON THE day William Haggas confirmed that Shaamit would be supplemented to Sunday's Budweiser Irish Derby at the Curragh, Ladbrokes installed the Epsom Derby winner as 6-4 favourite to confirm himself the leading middle-distance three-year-old in Europe.

Haggas, who trains the son of Minto, received the encouragement he needed when Shaamit exuded good health in a gentle workout at Newmarket on Saturday. And

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: AQUADO
(4.45 Nottingham)
Next best: Sansalom
(7.00 Windsor)

bookmakers expect the horse to confirm his Epsom defeat of Dushyantor, who disputes second favouritism, at 3-1, with the Michael Stoute-trained Dr Massini.

A strong British raid is growing for the £160,000 contest. Among those in line for the 12-furlong classic is Alhaarth, the Derby fifth, who will almost certainly be tried in blinkers. Other British challengers include Polaris Flight, Amfortas and Sharaf Kaboor, whose connections, like those of Shaamit, will pay £160,000 to supplement the colt.



The St Leger hope Astor Place, right, finishes strongly to master Acharnie close home at Ascot on Saturday

Haggas intends to give Shaamit another gentle breeze on Newmarket Heath tomorrow. "The horse is very fit and he doesn't need to prove to us how good he is on the gallops any more," the trainer said. "No group one race is easy, let alone the Irish Derby, but we are entitled to believe he is the best horse."

Interestingly, Sunday's contest may represent the last chance for L2-furlong specialists to take Shaamit's prized scalp. Haggas said: "I am desperate to drop the horse back to ten furlongs, which we will do later in the year. Assuming all goes well in Ireland, I wouldn't be that keen to go for the King George

V1 and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes. Obviously it would be the owner's decision, but, from talking to him, I get the feeling Khalifa Dasmal would like to try him over that trip as well."

In saluting Shaamit's victory at Epsom, Henry Cecil felt that Dushyantor might have troubled the winner but

for meeting with interference. And the Newmarket handler plans to make the point on Sunday. "I am hopeful Dushyantor might turn the tables on a more galloping track and with a clearer run," Cecil said.

Dr Massini, forced out of the Derby at the eleventh hour, is expected to be ridden

by Mick Kinnane. Dermot Weld has first claim on the jockey but is thought unlikely to be represented. Dr Massini demonstrated he had recovered from the foot injury that scuppered his Epsom participation by pleasing connections in his work on Saturday.

Dick Hern, who trains Alhaarth, feels the use of blinkers will help his colt to concentrate. Hern also believes the flatter terrain at the Curragh will better suit Alhaarth. "He didn't come down the [Epsom] hill well, which surprised me as he has a good action," Hern said.

Ladbrokes offer 7-1 against Alhaarth and 10-1 against Polaris Flight, who represents L2-furlong classic form in France after his narrow defeat by Ragmar in the Prix du Jockey-Club.

Simo Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, accepted that significant improvement was required if Sharaf Kaboor, a 1-1 chance, is to trouble the principals. "He needs to find 20lb to be competitive but he should run a nice race if the ground is fast," Crisford said.

Paul Kelleway's Glory Of Dancer, the Derby fourth, was beaten a short head by Grape Tree Road in the ten-furlong Grand Prix de Paris at Longchamp yesterday. Androi was third, while Henry Cecil's Farasan, originally fourth, was demoted to sixth.

Saturday's results, page 40

Home produce gives Watsons three firsts at Ascot show

If Royal Ascot is the High Street of British racing, entities like Mick Kinane and Godolphin are the biggest department stores on the patch. It was business as usual for the Irishman and Sheikh Mohammed, but a sweep of the less fashionable shops identified where the honours really rested.

Step forward Richard and Tessa Watson, leading breeders at Royal Ascot, who once memorably parried a barbed question with the sentiment that it was better to be born lucky than rich. The Watsons were born with both attributes, yet they have recognised the former's virtues. A flurry of success once prompted them to indulge their mares with pricey stallions — to detrimental effect.

Some years ago they sold a yearling for 56,000 guineas, the highest price yet achieved by their Manor Farm Stud, in Rutland. The horse eventually broke its duck in Jersey, so it was back to the tried and trusted. Both Araf and Emerging Market are rendered equal by the start of their trigger. It is soundness of mind and heart that counts, and no amount of investment can alter the balance.

In a similar vein, the colour of blood cannot be enriched by money alone. The gates at Ascot do not merely divide winners from also-rans, they separate blue-bloods from the red. So raw is Clantime's blood that he was initially denied entry to the Stud Book, which is racing's equivalent of the Royal Enclosure.

This rare achievement adds another strand to the Turf's romantic tapestry. Of

JULIAN MUSCAT



Racing
Commentary

the sporting pursuits requiring substantial investment, none has a greater capacity to surprise. Irrespective of their upbringing, connections or price, a field of untraced two-year-olds are rendered equal by the start of their trigger. It is soundness of mind and heart that counts, and no amount of investment can alter the balance.

In a similar vein, the colour of blood cannot be enriched by money alone. The gates at Ascot do not merely divide winners from also-rans, they separate blue-bloods from the red. So raw is Clantime's blood that he was initially denied entry to the Stud Book, which is racing's equivalent of the Royal Enclosure.

MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER
2.30 Fozzy, 3.00 Mister Aspects, 3.30 Time To Tango, 4.00 Silver Hunter, 4.30 Perilous Flight, 5.00 Eben Neas.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: SF, LOW BEST SIS

2.30 CRAIGLEITH CLAIMING STAKES

(2-Y-O; £2,553; 5f) (8 runners)
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John Goodbody on one of the singular success stories of sport. Running is slimming and clears the mind.

Chasing the real 'feel-good' factor

It is one of the unsung success stories of British sport. On July 10, international athletes, keep-fit fanatics, unambitious joggers and people who just fancy a pleasant run in lovely surroundings will be pounding twice round Battersea Park, London, in the Chase Corporate Challenge.

The record entry of 8,000 on the sunlit evening of July 1995 seems likely to be surpassed, as almost 300 companies will field teams in an event that this year celebrates its 20th anniversary. Some companies will have just a handful of runners, others may try to outdo Morgan Stanley, which last year fielded 254 employees, a turnout which seemed to include everyone in the bank.

The idea of the Corporate Challenge began in 1977 in New York. The late Fred Lebow, the man who did so much to promote the American jogging boom, and the New York marathon in particular, persuaded Charles McCabe from Manufacturers Hanover Trust to back a race in Central Park. The length of the event was decided in an unusual way. Lebow and McCabe measured the distance they had walked while discussing the idea. It was 3½ miles and this has developed as the standard course round the world.

The event attracts young and old, male and female. It is a festival of fitness and the wide range of categories has meant that companies can challenge rivals in related areas of business and commerce.

For some people, such as John Mayo, of Zeneca Group plc, the Corporate Challenge gives a focus to his three weekly running sessions and is also "just a lot of enjoyment. It is half way between a fun-run and a really serious race. It is also good for our company. In fact half of the people in our head office take part."

As the finance director of the



pharmaceutical and agro-chemical company, he finds he needs regular running to clear his head before a day's work. Often, he says, he will have "sorted out" two or three problems in his mind while out exercising.

John says that he feels "more energised" on the days when business allows him to take time out for an early morning session in Hyde Park. "I just wish I had started running when I was 25. During my early thirties, like many people, the work load increased and I got out of the habit of exercising."

Now 40, he has lost 20 pounds over the past three years and is now down to 11 stone 7lbs. "I have a reasonably disciplined approach to running — that and a wonderful secretary who limits breakfast meetings to Tuesdays and Thursdays, which are my non-running days. "When I am abroad on business, I always take my kit and can do my sightseeing on the run early in the morning. It is not a religion. It is a discipline."

He says: "I do not find that my appetite is any the less when I am running, although I find it quite easy to go through to lunchtime after an early-morning session. Most of the time I eat what I want

to and I certainly don't eat tiny meals."

Another competitor who originally began exercising to lose weight is Jackie Coulson, a part-time clerk with Barclaycard in Northampton. She astonished herself last year by not only being a member of the Barclays bank team, which won the women's team event, but also by being the second woman home in the Chemical Bank Corporate Challenge in New York.

This year, with the merger of Chemical Banking Corporation and the Chase Manhattan Corporation, the final will have even greater status and will take place in New York on October 5. The men's, women's and mixed teams who have done best in the London race will be invited to participate in New York. So will the top teams from the other 14 cities which are staging the marathon this year, bringing the total number of participants to 131,000.

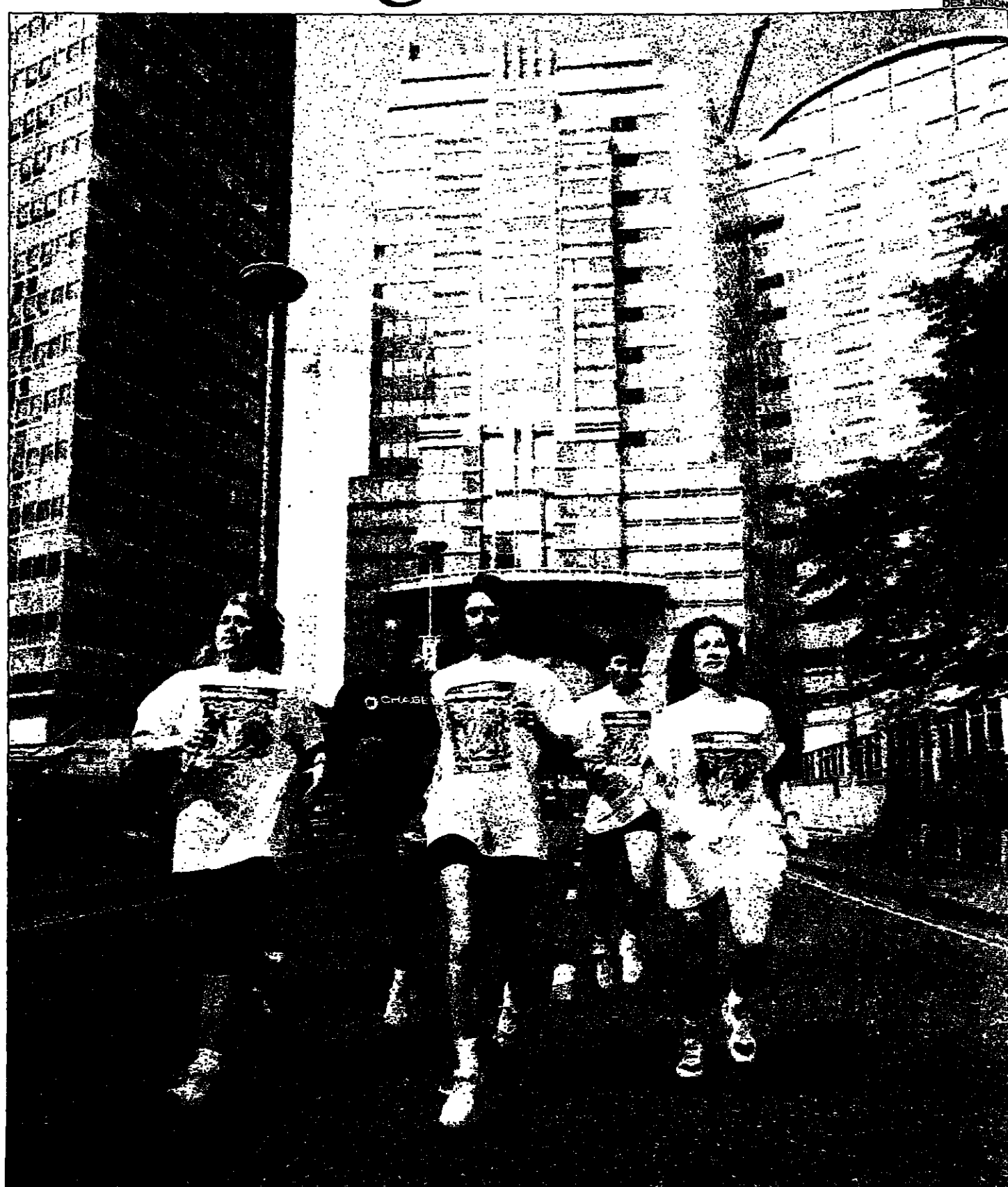
Jackie, 34, began running eight years ago because she had put on weight after having the first two of her three children. She had sprinted as a teenager, "but after leaving school, I never did any more sport. When there is a chance not to do something, you don't do it."

She originally thought about trying aerobic classes. "But we were a bit pushed for cash at the time and so running was cheaper." When she started entering races, she surprised herself on just how well she did. "When you are on your own, you never think you are that good."

She often trains twice a day, beginning every morning with a one-hour jog, while her husband, Richard, gets the children's breakfast. "He is excellent. I could not do anything without him" before leaving for his job as an engineer. The children are then ferried to school or to a child-minder. The logistics are exhausting before the working day has even begun.

She has a further session most days, sometimes with Lita Hickey, a Barclays Bank team mate, and husband, Dave, who has encouraged her to develop her speedwork. She prefers longer distances, and finished the 1995 London Marathon in 2 hours 59 minutes.

Does she dislike getting up at 6am to run on freezing February mornings? "No, it doesn't bother me. What I dislike is the speedwork. I don't really warm up until I have done at least five miles. The 3½ miles in the Corporate Challenge is so explosive — you have just got to go for it."

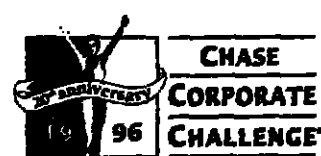


Chase employees pounding the City streets in training for the Chase Corporate Challenge marathon in Battersea Park on July 10

COMPETING IN COMPANY

COMPANIES can enter an unlimited number of runners at all levels of ability. All runners note their own individual times at the finish and give their results to their company captain. Officials use closed-circuit TV to check all running times. Any falsification will lead to the company's disqualification.

The captains then study the running times and decide which runner will represent which company team. There are five men in a men's team, three



women in a women's team and two men and two women in a mixed team. Each runner may be placed in one team only.

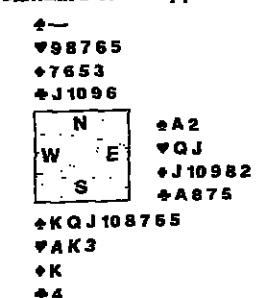
Entry forms contact London Marathon, 0171-620 4117. Entries must be in by noon, July 1, 1996.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In my column published on May 21 I described a hand in which Howard Cohen made an early claim of a contract. The claim was entirely valid, but based on a far-seeing analysis of a squeeze ending. I made a jokey remark to the effect that it might have been better manners just to play it out. Unfortunately it came across as though I disapproved of the claim. Far from it — anytime you have a straightforward line it is polite to claim (or concede). The only point about the particular hand is that it might have been quicker to play it out, as explaining the claim was quite complicated.

Here is an example of a hand on which whether to concede would depend on the standard of the opposition.



Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: King of clubs

South opens Four Spades and all pass. West leads the king of clubs, and continues with a low club to the ace. Ruffed by South. South leads the king of spades to the ace. East switches to the jack of diamonds and West takes the ace and attempts to cash a second round, but South ruffs.

In a good-quality game it would be bad manners for South to play any more cards. He should just concede one off. This is because both defenders know declarer has no more cards in either minor, so obviously they will keep hearts — playing off the trump to come down to a K 3 of hearts does nothing but waste time. But it's more problematic in a weaker game — the defenders may not have

taken the point about the hearts, and so an unwary West may discard one on the run of the spades. So I suppose under those circumstances it is reasonable to play it out.

By the way, the correct procedure in making a claim is to lay down your hand, state clearly your line of play, and wait for the defenders to agree. Some top tournament players forget that last part — they briefly flash their cards at the opponents and put them back in the board, and then express scorn when asked to show them again. That certainly is bad manners.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- ADIPSON
a. The letter D
b. A drink
c. To the same thing
- BASHAW
a. A dead leaf
b. A Turkish nob
c. A Saxon scholar

- BOANTHROPY
a. Love of cows
b. Mad cow disease
c. Thinking one is a cow
- BOURG
a. Court
b. A breakfast
c. A market town

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Russian rout

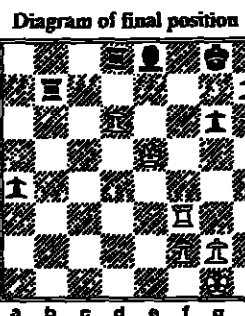
Anatoly Karpov, the defending Fide champion, is subjecting his young opponent, grandmaster Gata Kamsky, to a horrifying rout in their match in Elista, the capital of the autonomous Russian republic of Kalmykia. Game eight ended in a hard fought draw, while game nine saw Karpov's fifth victory out of a mere nine games. Kamsky repeated the Grandfield Defence which has been his mainstay so far but after a sharp opening he indulged in an over-optimistic queen sacrifice with his 21st move. Instead, 21... Qb6 would have maintained approximate equality. Having sacrificed his queen for rook, bishop and a dangerous-looking passed pawn, Kamsky's chances did not, in fact, appear inferior. However, Karpov quickly established a blockade of the black pawn and, as if discouraged by this turn of events, Kamsky's play disintegrated between moves 27 and 34. In the final position Black has been totally crushed and White even enjoys the spectacular threat of 42 Qh8! Kxh8 43 Rf8 checkmate.

White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Gata Kamsky
Fide world championship
Elista, Game 9, June 1996

Grandfield Defence

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 1 d4 | Nf6 |
| 2 c4 | g6 |
| 3 Nc3 | d5 |
| 4 Nf3 | Bg7 |
| 5 Qc3 | 0-0 |
| 6 Qxc4 | 0-0 |
| 7 e4 | a6 |
| 8 e5 | b5 |
| 9 Qb3 | Nd7 |
| 10 Be3 | c5 |
| 11 a5 | d4 |
| 12 exf7+ | Nd7 |
| 13 Qd1 | Nb6 |
| 14 Ne5 | Rf8 |
| 15 a4 | b4 |
| 16 a5 | bxc3 |
| 17 exb6 | cxh2 |
| 18 Bc4+ | Kf8 |
| 19 Rb1 | Qxb6 |

- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| 20 Qd2 | Nd7 |
| 21 Rxb2 | Nxc4 |
| 22 Rxb6 | Nxb6 |
| 23 Qb4 | a5 |
| 24 Qxb6 | a4 |
| 25 0-0 | Bf5 |
| 26 Ra1 | a3 |
| 27 h4 | Bd4 |
| 28 Bf4 | Bc4 |
| 29 Bg5 | Rf8 |
| 30 Qb5 | Bc6 |
| 31 Qc4 | Kg8 |
| 32 Ra3 | Ra6 |
| 33 Qc4 | Rc8 |
| 34 Qxe6+ | Kh8 |
| 35 Bc5 | Bc5 |
| 36 Qe5+ | Kg8 |
| 37 h5 | Be8 |
| 38 h6 | Rf8 |
| 39 d5 | Rb7 |
| 40 d6 | Rc8 |
| 41 Rf3 | Black resigns |



The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276) at £5.99 plus postage and packing.

Martell Trophy

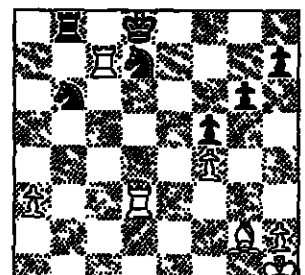
Tomorrow night at Simpson's-in-the-Strand, London, the final of the Martell Trophy for London clubs, will be contested between the RAC (first team) and the team from the BBC. Spectators are welcome.

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This week I will be concentrating on positions by Anatoly Karpov, the defending Fide champion and his challenger Gata Kamsky. Their match for the Fide world championship started on June 6. White to play. This position is from the game Kamsky — Short, Candidates, Linares 1996. White is the exchange (rook for minor piece) ahead in this position, but the rook is on a square where it is difficult for him to realize his advantage. However, he solved this potential difficulty with a tactical stroke. How did he continue?



Solution on page 46

How I flew a half-Cuban in a Soviet fighter

An air show next month will open up flying to all

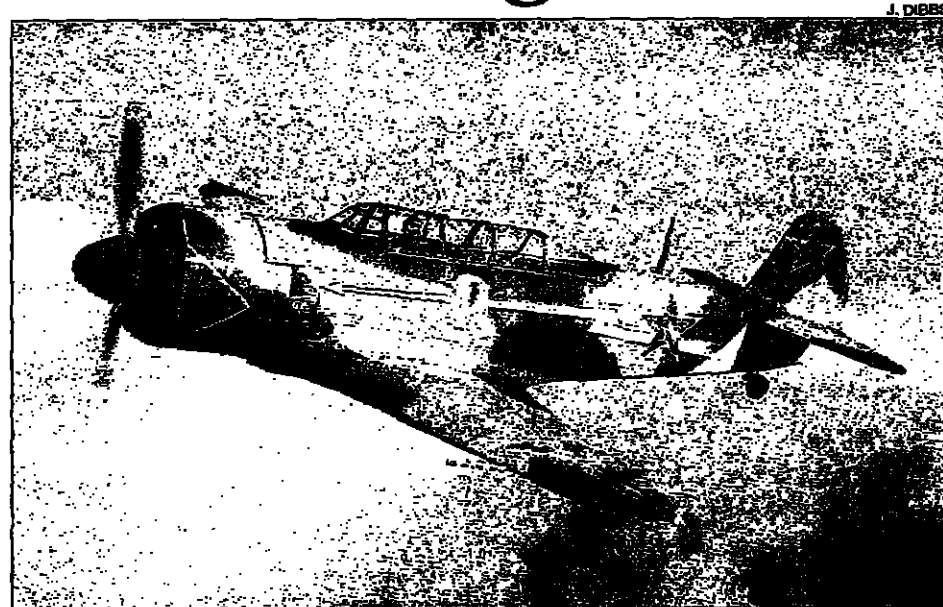
More than 1,200 pilots from all over Britain will descend on an airfield near Bedford next month for an airshow which enthusiasts hope will help aviation to shrug off its image as a preserve of the rich.

The Popular Flying Association's fiftieth anniversary rally at Cranfield is expected to draw crowds of more than 25,000 to watch vintage, home-made and modern aircraft swarm onto the airfield. Among the 30 or so aerobatic pilots who will perform displays at the show will be Mark Jefferies, the British aerobatic champion of 1994.

When Jefferies flies, the rules — and his late 1940s Yakovlev II Soviet fighter — are turned on their heads. Last month he became the first Westerner to take part in an airshow at a Soviet-era military base in the former East Germany. As we approached the airfield at Wriezen, near the German-Polish border, he climbed to 5,000ft and then swung the Yak's nose at the ground. At about 30ft from the deck he pulled straight and level, sweeping past at more than 330 knots the people waiting to welcome him. He then did two tight rolls and soared skyward to twist his way through a manoeuvre called a half-Cuban.

"I just strap the aeroplane to myself and point it where I want to go," he says. His wife, Cathy, has no fears for his safety, he says, though he feels a "twinge of awareness" now that he has his one-year-old daughter, Jasmine, to think about. "I also get worried when someone experienced has an accident," he adds.

When Jefferies flew to Germany he took me along for the ride to gain a taste of the topsy-turvy world of aerobatics. His unorthodox air-



A Yakovlev II Soviet fighter owned by Mark Jefferies, the 1994 British aerobatic champion

field approaches have the blessing of air traffic controllers. As the 1994 champion he was fitted on route by being asked to perform a low pass at Calais. And at Munster Osnabrück, where we refuelled, the controllers waved excitedly, then waived their landing fee in exchange for a glimpse of his skills on the way out.

Jefferies, who imports Yaks from the former Soviet Union, restores them at his home in Little Gransden, Cambridgeshire, then sells them to enthusiasts. On this journey he was almost forced to abort his trip. The aerobatic nearly turned back when unexpectedly atrocious weather over south-east England threatened to block our route. Jefferies was forced to squeeze the aircraft into a slither of space between land and low-

ering cloud. With no oxygen on board we may not have been able to fly high enough to clear the tops of the menacing cumulonimbus clouds.

"I saw a glimmer of light in a valley and flew towards it," Jefferies said. Seconds later, through the gloom, the white cliffs of Dover fell away behind us and we had a precious few extra feet to play with. Nonetheless after crossing the coastline Jefferies flew even closer to the ground and the altimeter in the rear cockpit, which I had not reset since leaving Gransden, nibbled zero. In fact, we were flying at about 200ft.

Five straps fasten you to the wooden seat and it is a draughty, noisy but exhilarating ride. We made the journey from Cambridgeshire to Germany in three hours.

It is hoped that such gravity-defying exploits will be particularly inspiring to children at the Cranfield airshow which takes place from Friday, July 5 to Sunday, July 7. The PFA runs the British arm of an American-led campaign to give one million children up to the age of 16 a chance to fly in a light aircraft by the year 2003 — the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first powered flight. The Young Eagles Scheme involves volunteer pilots offering the flights on a first-come, first-served basis.

EVE-ANN PRENTICE

FACT FILE

ENTRY to the Cranfield Airshow costs from £5 for Popular Flying Association (PFA) members coming by plane, to £34 for three days for non-members arriving by road. £18 per day for non-members. Children under 16 free. For more information contact Anthony Preston, Popular Flying Association, Terminal Building, Shoreham Airport, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5FF, or contact the PFA at the show. Annual PFA fees are £32, full membership; £42 for families; £21, senior citizens.

Law Report June 24 1996 House of Lords

Valuers not liable for risk of default by borrowers

South Australia Asset Management Corporation v York Montague Ltd
United Bank of Kuwait plc v Prudential Property Services Ltd
Nykredit Mortgage Bank Ltd v Edward Erdman Group Ltd

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches June 20]

Where valuers had been negligent or in breach of duty in overvaluing properties on mortgage, and between the dates of valuation and the date at which borrowers had subsequently defaulted the market had fallen substantially, the valuers were liable to the lenders not for all the consequences of the course of action taken by the lenders but only for the foreseeable consequences of the information they had given being wrong.

The House of Lords so held when: (i) dismissing an appeal by the defendants, York Montague Ltd, from Mr Justice May, who had on April 24, 1995 given judgment for the plaintiffs, South Australia Asset Management Corporation, for £7,336,832.24 inclusive of agreed interest;

(ii) allowing appeals by the defendants, Prudential Property Services Ltd, and Edward Erdman Group Ltd, from the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Rose and Lord Justice Mummery) (The Times February 21, 1995; [1995] QB 378), who had dismissed their appeals from Mr Justice Gage and Judge Byrri, QC, respectively.

Mr Justice Gage, on December 10, 1993, had given judgment for the plaintiffs, United Bank of Kuwait plc, for damages to be assessed, and Judge

Byrri, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division on October 1, 1993, had given judgment for the plaintiffs, Nykredit Mortgage Bank plc, for £2,165,000 damages and £953,555.52 interest.

Mr Justice May granted York Montague a certificate for application for leave to appeal directly to the House of Lords and the House subsequently gave leave.

Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Miss Marion Egan for York Montague; Mr Mark Haggard, QC and Mr Charles Douthwaite for South Australia Asset Management Corporation.

Mr Ronald Walker, QC and Mr Vincent Moran for Prudential Property Services; Mr Roger Toulson, QC and Mr Daniel Pearce-Higgins for United Bank of Kuwait.

Mr Michael de Navarro, QC and Mr Jonathan Ferris for Edward Erdman Group; Mr Michael Briggs, QC and Mr David Blayney for Nykredit Mortgage Bank.

LORD HOFFMANN said that the cases had two common features. First, if the lender had known the true value of the property he would not have lent. Second, a fall in the property market after the date of valuation had greatly increased the loss that the lender had eventually suffered.

The Court of Appeal had decided that in a case in which the lender would not otherwise have lent he was entitled to recover the difference between the sum that he had lent, together with a reasonable rate of interest, and the net sum that he had actually got back.

The valuer bore the whole risk of a transaction which, but for his negligence, would not have happened. He was therefore liable for all the loss attributable to a fall in the market.

The lenders sued under contracts under which the valuers, in return for a fee, undertook to provide them with

certain information. In each case, the value had been required to provide an estimate of the price that the property might reasonably be expected to fetch if sold in the open market at the date of the valuation.

The purpose for which that information had been provided was to form part of the material on which the lender was to decide whether, and if so how much, he would lend.

The valuation told him how much, at current values, he was likely to recover if he had to resort to his security. That enabled him to decide what margin, if any, an advance of a given amount would allow for a fall in the market, reasonably foreseeable variance from the valuer's figure and so on.

The valuer would know that, if he overestimated the value, the lender's margin for those purposes would be correspondingly less. On the other hand, the valuer would not ordinarily be privy to the other considerations that the lender might take into account, such as how much money he had available, how the strength of his covenant, the attraction of the rate of interest, or the other personal or commercial considerations that might induce the lender to lend.

There was no reason in principle why the law should not penalise wrongful conduct by shifting on to the wrongdoer the whole risk of consequences that would have happened but for the wrongful act, but that was not the normal rule. Rules that made him liable for all the consequences of his wrongful conduct were exceptional and needed to be justified by some special policy.

Normally the law limited liability to those consequences that were attributable to that which had made the act wrongful. In the case of liability in negligence for providing inaccurate information, that would mean liability

for the consequences of the information being inaccurate.

The difference between the ordinary principle and that adopted by the Court of Appeal could be illustrated by an example. A mountaineer about to undertake a difficult climb was concerned about the fitness of his knee. He went to a doctor who negligently pronounced it fit. The climber went on the expedition, which he would not have done if the doctor had told him the true state of his knee. He suffered an injury that was an entirely foreseeable consequence of the mountaineering but had nothing to do with his knee.

On the Court of Appeal's principle the doctor was responsible for the injury because it was damage that would not have occurred if the climber had been given correct information about his knee. He would not have gone on the expedition and would have suffered no injury.

On what his Lordship suggested was the more usual principle, the doctor was not liable. The injury had not been caused by the doctor's bad advice because it would have occurred even if the advice had been correct.

The Court of Appeal's principle of extended common sense because it made the doctor responsible for consequences that might not be caused by his advice, although in general terms foreseeable, did not appear to have a sufficient causal connection with the subject-matter of the duty.

The doctor had been asked for information on only one of the considerations that might affect the safety of the mountaineer, on the expedition. There seemed no reason of policy that required the transfer to him of all the foreseeable risks of the expedition.

The principle was that a person under a duty to take reasonable care to provide information on which someone else would decide on a course of action was,

if negligent, not generally regarded as responsible for all the consequences of that course of action. He was responsible only for the consequences of the information being wrong.

A duty of care that imposed on the informant responsibility for losses that would have occurred even if the information given had been correct was not fair and reasonable as between the parties. It was therefore inappropriate either as an implied term of a contract or as a tortious duty arising from the relationship between them.

The principle distinguished between a duty to provide information for the purpose of enabling someone else to decide on a course of action and a duty to advise someone as to what course of action he should take.

In the latter case, the adviser had to take reasonable care to consider all the potential consequences of that course of action, and if he was negligent he would be responsible for all the foreseeable loss that was a consequence of that course of action being taken.

The principle was implicit in the decision of the House of Lords in *Bank of Credit & Commerce International SA v Ali* (1995) 2 AC 251.

The measure of damages in an action for breach of duty to take care to provide accurate information had also to be distinguished from that for breach of a warranty that the information was accurate.

In the case of breach of a duty of care, the measure of damages was the loss attributable to the breach of duty. The information that the plaintiff had suffered by reason of having entered into the transaction on the assumption that the information was correct.

One therefore compared the loss he had actually suffered with what his position would have been if he had not entered into the transaction and asked

what element of that loss was attributable to the inaccuracy of the information.

In the case of a warranty, one compared the plaintiff's position as a result of entering into the transaction with what it would have been if the information had been accurate.

Both measures were concerned with the consequences of the inaccuracy of the information, but the tort measure was the extent to which the plaintiff was worse off because the information was wrong whereas the warranty measure was the extent to which he would have been better off if the information had been right.

That distinction had been the basis of the decision of the House of Lords in *Swingcastle Ltd v Alastair Gibson* (1991) 2 AC 239.

In the *South Australia* case the lenders on August 3, 1990 had advanced £11 million on a property valued at £15 million. The judge had found that the actual value at the time had been £5 million. On August 5, 1994 the property had been sold for £2,477,000. The judge had quantified the loss at £9,753,027.50 and deducted 25 per cent for the plaintiffs' contributory negligence.

The consequence of the valuation being wrong had been that the plaintiffs had had £10 million less security than they had thought. If they had had that margin, they would have suffered no loss. The whole loss had therefore been within the scope of the defendants' duty. The appeal was dismissed.

In the *United Bank of Kuwait* case the lenders on October 19, 1990 had advanced £17.5 million on the security of a property valued by the defendants at £25 million. The judge had found that the correct value had been between £1.8 and £1.85 million. It had been sold in February 1992 for £950,000. The judge had quantified the loss, including un-

paid interest, at £1,209,876. In his Lordships' view, the damages should have been limited to the consequences of the valuation being wrong, which had been that the lenders had had £700,000 or £650,000 less security than they had thought.

The plaintiffs said that the situation produced by the overvaluation was not merely that they had had less security but also that there had been a greater risk of default.

But the valuers had not been asked to advise on the risk of default, which would have depended on a number of matters outside their knowledge. The greater risk of default, if such there had been, was only another reason why the lenders, if they had known the true facts, would not have entered into the transaction, but that did not affect the scope of the valuers' duty. The appeal should be allowed and the damages reduced to the difference between the valuation and the correct value.

In the *Nykredit* case, the lenders on March 12, 1990 had advanced £2.45 million on the security of a property valued by the defendants at £3.5 million. The correct value had been sold by the judge to be £2 million or at most £2.375 million.

The price obtained at auction in February 1993 had been £345,000. The judge had quantified the loss, including unpaid interest, at £3,058,555.2. The appeal should be allowed and a figure substituted equal to the difference between £3.5 million and the true value of the property at the date of valuation.

LORD GOFF, LORD JAUNCEY, LORD SYLYNN and LORD NICHOLLS agreed.

Solicitors: Rowe & Maw; Alamy Wilkinson; Cameron Markby Hewitt; Clifford Chance; Williams Davies Meltzer; Clifford Chance.

Permitting witness to refresh memory

Regina v South Ribbleside Stipendiary Magistrate, Ex parte Cochrane

Before Lord Justice Henry and Mr Justice Ewbank
[Judgment June 7]

There was no rigid rule of law which precluded a court in a criminal trial from exercising a broad discretion to permit a witness who had begun to give evidence to refresh his memory from non-contemporaneous witness statements which he had made before going into the witness box but had not digested.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, dismissing Judith Dawn Cochrane's application to quash the decision of Mr Fineston, South Ribbleside stipendiary magistrate sitting at Leyland Magistrates' Court on March 5, 1995, to commit her to Preston Crown Court to stand trial on a charge of conspiring with others to pervert the course of justice.

In the course of the committal

proceedings on March 1, 1995, the prosecution applied for a witness to be allowed to refresh his memory. In respect of events which had occurred 18 months before, from three witness statements, the first of which had been made to the police approximately two weeks after the events in question.

The magistrate permitted the witness to refresh his memory from the statements even though the witness had already had 10 to 15 minutes reading them before going into the witness box to give evidence.

Mr Kevin Talbot and Mr Brian Jackson, solicitor, for the applicant; Mr Paul C. Reid for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE HENRY said that it was submitted for the applicant that the magistrate had no discretion to allow the witness's memory to be refreshed from the statements once it was established that the third of the four criteria laid down in *R v Da Silva* (1990)

40 Cr App R 233, 238 had not been complied with, namely, that the witness had not read the statement before coming into the witness box.

Mr Talbot submitted that *Da Silva* laid down a rigid principle of law governing, in all cases, the situation where a witness asked to refresh his memory from a non-contemporaneous document.

But the court in that case was not saying as a matter of law that once a witness entered the witness box he could only refer to a previous non-contemporaneous statement if all four criteria there set out were satisfied.

The court were saying that a trial judge could permit a witness who had begun to give evidence to refresh his memory even if the document was not contemporaneous.

There was no logical difference between a witness reading a statement before giving evidence but not taking in its contents, and one who did not read it at all.

The court had not read it at all.

Regina v Secretary of State for Wales, Ex parte Emery

Before Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC
[Judgment June 4]

Although the secretary of state was empowered to reach a decision as to whether to exercise his powers under paragraph 4 of Schedule 14 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 on documentary evidence alone, a public inquiry should have been held where there was substantial conflict of such evidence on whether a right of way had been established in order to allow the evidence to be tested properly.

Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when granting an application by Mr Gordon Emery, a member of the public, for a judicial review of the decision of the Secretary of State for Wales not to direct Cwyd County Council to modify the definitive map of its area to show an alleged public footpath.

Mr George Laurence, QC and Edwin Simpson for Mr Emery; Mr John Hobson for the secretary of state.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the issue focused on the administrative process to be deployed when evidence of an alleged public right of way, which was deemed reasonably to result from a wealth of evidence from public users, conflicted with the landowner's evidence which sought to establish an intention not to dedicate the way.

On appeal against the original decision of the council that the documentary evidence, which was conflicting, was insufficient to prove dedication of the claimed path, the secretary of state found that, although the weight of evidential statements showed that the path had been used by the public for walking, access and many other outdoor activities for the period stated, in the genuine belief that their unchallenged use meant dedication as a public right of way, the unequivocal statement

Public inquiry should have been held

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by the former owner denying any such intention to dedicate provided sufficient evidence in the terms of section 31 of the Highways Act 1980 to rebut the presumption of a right of way raised by usage. Accordingly he dismissed the appeal and declined to exercise his power under Schedule 14 of the 1981 Act.

His Lordship accepted that that decision was fully and correctly reasoned within the statutory framework. Its only potential fault, not amounting to a *Wednesbury* unreasonableness (1948) 1 KB 223 lay in the approach to the problem whether there was such a conflict of documentary evidence that that ought to have been orally tested at a public inquiry.

While recognising that the court could not interfere with the exercise of an administrative decision on substantive grounds, save where the decision was manifestly unreasonable, his Lordship deemed that it could interfere where the administrative process focused on procedural safeguards.

He considered that, where the interests of justice required that the interests of justice in principle called for legal representation. In this case, the applicant faced a maximum prison term of three months.

Furthermore, the law which the justices had to apply was not straightforward; in particular, the test for culpable negligence was difficult to operate, as was evidenced by the fact that, in the judgment of the Divisional Court, the justices' finding could not be sustained on the evidence before them.

There were two types of legal aid available to the applicant. Under the Green Form scheme he was entitled to advice and assistance from a solicitor prior to the hearing, but not to legal representation in court.

Under the assistance by way of representation scheme, the applicant could at their discretion have appointed a solicitor to represent him. However, Mr Benham was not entitled as of right to be represented.

Accordingly, the Court held that there had been a breach of article 6.1 and 6.3(d) of the Convention taken together with article 6.1.

The words "criminal charge" in article 6 bore an autonomous meaning, independent of the categorisation applied under domestic law. In view of the nature of the proceedings for commitment to prison following non-payment of the community charge and the relative severity of the available sanction (three months imprisonment) article 6 was applicable.

The Court had to decide whether the interests of justice required that the interests of justice in principle called for legal representation. In this case, the applicant faced a maximum prison term of three months.

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Human Rights Law Report

Breach in denial of free legal assistance to poll tax defaulter

Benham v United Kingdom
(Case No 71/1995/513/597)

Before R. Ryssdal, President, and Judges R. Bernhardt, Thór Vilhjálmsson, Gábor Árkai, F. Mauchez, B. Walsh, R. Macdonald, J. De Meyer, E. Palm, I. Fiolgá, R. Pekkanen, A. N. Lázari, Sir John Freeland, A. B. Balci, M. A. Lopes Rocha, L. Wildhaber, G. Mifsud Bonnici, D. Gočević, B. Repik, P. J. Mahoney and J. Jungwirth

Registrar H. Petzold
Deputy Registrar P. J. Mahoney
[Judgment June 10]

The denial of legal aid to a poll tax defaulter at a hearing before magistrates was a breach of the European Convention on Human Rights, but a sentence of detention passed on him was not.

The European Court of Human Rights held, by 17 votes to four, that there had been no violation of article 5.1 of the Convention in relation to the detention of Mr Stephen Benham by magistrates for non-payment of the community charge and that article 5.5, therefore, did not apply. However, the Court also held, unanimously, that the fact that he had not been entitled to legal aid for representation at the hearing before the magistrates did constitute a violation of article 6.1 and 6.3(d) taken together.

Article 5.1 of the Convention provides: "1. Everybody has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law: ... (b) the lawful arrest or detention of a person for non-compliance with the lawful order of a court or in order to secure the fulfilment of any obligation prescribed by law."

"5. Everyone who has been a victim of arrest or detention in contravention of the provisions of this article shall have an enforceable right to compensation."

Article 6 provides: "1. In the determination ... of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair ... hearing ..."

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hearing and the justices could have ordered a solicitor to represent him before them under the assistance by way of representation scheme if they had thought it necessary.

The justices found that Mr Benham had no income or assets with which to pay the debt, but that he had nine 0 levels and had voluntarily left an employment training scheme in March 1990.

They concluded that his failure to pay was due to his culpable neglect since he clearly had the potential to earn money, and they issued a warrant committing him to prison for 30 days. He was taken to Dorchester Prison and held for 11 days.

Mr Benham appealed to the Divisional Court. Bail was granted on April 5, 1991 and the appeal was heard on October 7 and 8, 1991. The court quashed the order for detention on the ground that there had been insufficient evidence before the justices to support their finding that Mr Benham's failure to pay the community charge was due to culpable neglect: clear evidence that suitable employment was on offer in him would have been necessary.

The application was lodged with the European Commission of Human Rights on September 20, 1991 and declared admissible on January 13, 1994.

Having attempted unsuccessfully to secure a friendly settlement, the Commission drew up a report on November 29, 1994 in which it established the facts of the case and expressed the opinions that there had been breaches of article 5.1 (12 votes to six), article 5.5 (17 votes to one) and article 6.1 (15 votes to three).

The case was referred to the Court by the Commission on January 23, 1995 and by the UK Government on January 26, 1995.

In its judgment the European Court of Human Rights held: **I Alleged violation of article 5.1**

The applicant complained that his detention for 11 days had been contrary to article 5.1.

The Court held that the complaint fell to be dealt with under sub-paragraph (b) of article 5.1, since the purpose of the detention was to secure the fulfilment of Mr Benham's obligation to pay the community charge owed by him.

The main issue to be determined was whether the disputed detention was "lawful" including whether it complied with "a procedure prescribed by law".

The Convention here essentially referred back to national law and stated the obligation to conform to the substantive and procedural rules thereof, but it required in addition that any deprivation of liberty should be consistent with the purpose of article 5, namely to protect individuals from arbitrary arrest.

It was in the first place for the national authorities, notably the courts, to interpret and apply

domestic law. However, since under article 5.1 failure to comply with domestic law entailed a breach of the Convention, it followed that the Court could and should examine a certain power to review whether that law had been complied with.

It was agreed by those appearing before the Court that the principles of English law which should be taken into account in this case distinguished between errors made by a magistrates' court which were of such a degree of gravity as to deprive the bench of jurisdiction, and other, less serious, mistakes.

Orders made by a magistrates' court within its jurisdiction were valid and effective unless or until they were overturned by a superior court, so that any intervening period of detention would be lawful; whereas orders made in excess of jurisdiction were null and void from the outset, so that any interim detention would be unlawful.

According to the House of Lords decision in *McC v Mulligan* (1985) AC 520, justices exceeded their jurisdiction if they made an order which had no foundation in law because of a failure to observe a prior condition required by statute.

In Mr Benham's case, the Community Charge Regulations stipulated that before the justices could make an order for his detention, they should inquire into his means and his reasons for not paying the community charge. If, and only if, they decided that his failure to pay was due to his willful refusal or culpable neglect, they could commit him to prison.

Mr Justice Potts in the Divisional Court had found that the justices had carried out some inquiry as to whether Mr Benham's failure to pay was due to his culpable neglect. However, he concluded that their finding of culpable neglect could not be sustained on the evidence available to them.

He did not make any explicit finding as to whether the justices had exceeded their jurisdiction because there was no reason under English law for him to do so.

Against the above background, it could not be said with any degree of certainty that his judgment was to the effect that the justices' error

which had no foundation in law because of a failure to observe a prior condition required by statute.

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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Grainger Trust, Greenwich Resources, Scotswood Industries. Finals: American Seafarm, BTP, John Luty Group, Safeland, Schroder UK Growth Fund, Secure Retirement. Economic statistics: French May final consumer prices, US Treasury auction of short-term T-bills, Bank of France money market tender, Bank of France discount T-bill auction.

TOMORROW

Interims: Dwyer Estates, Heavitt Brewery, Sandhills. Finals: Baring Emerging Europe, Business Post Group, DBS Management, Debenhams, Tescos, Chester Water, Chloride Group, Claythorpe, Evans of Leeds, Halma, Howden Group, Morrison Construction Group, MS International, Norbain, Cusumano, St James Beach Hotels, Tinsley Robert. Economic statistics: French May final consumer prices, French May household consumption, US May existing home sales, US June consumer confidence, US Johnson redbook sales.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Gifford Japan Trust (q3), Taper Life Sciences, Turkey Trust. Finals: Christie Group, Harvey Nicholls, Hill Hire, Hogg Robinson, Lowndes Lambert Group, Northumbrian Fine Foods, TGI, Vendome Luxury Group, Winttrust. Economic statistics: French April foreign trade balance, French June industry survey, US May durable goods orders.

THURSDAY

Interims: Crest Nicholson, Harveys & Hanson. Finals: Alia, Allen, Asda Group, BPB Industries, British Biotech, Dailywin Group, Falcon Holdings, Ideal Hardware, Kewill Systems, Man (ED&F) Group, ML Holdings, Neepsend, Pelican Group, Quillgott, Vega Group, Yates Brothers Wine Lodges. Economic statistics: French June industry survey, UK April global trade balance, UK May non-EU trade balance, US weekly jobless claims, Bundesbank council meeting.

FRIDAY

Interims: Lomax, Partridge Fine Arts. Finals: Bournemouth and West Hampshire Water, Kenning Motor Group, Samuel Heath, Jones & Shipman, Martin Currie Japan. Economic statistics: French May unemployment, UK Q1 final GDP, US Chicago June PMI, US June Michigan consumer sentiment index, G7 summit in Lyon.

COMPANIES

MICHAEL CLARK

Asda trades on impressive growth



Archie Norman's standing in the City is unaffected by Asda's battles with drug companies

ASDA: Archie Norman will have to take time off from his court battles with the drug companies to give the City an update on current trading this week. Full-year figures on Thursday are expected to make impressive reading, with pre-tax profits set to increase from £252.2 million to almost £300 million on a 13 per cent increase in sales to around £5.9 billion. Profits in the previous year were struck after provisions of £11 million and a £6 million property loss.

Mr Norman may not be flavour of the month with the drug companies after his attempt to sell drugs in Asda stores at below the minimum recommended retail price, but his following in the City remains strong. Asda has been transformed from a struggling food retailer into Britain's fourth-biggest supermarket chain. The group's growth record has also been impressive, with earnings this time expected to climb from 5.76p to 7.26p. Shareholder loyalty should be rewarded with a 21 per cent increase in the net dividend, to 2.65p.

The strong sales growth is likely to have provided scope for a small increase in margins. In spite of the petrol price war and heavy marketing programmes for selected goods, brokers will be anxious to know whether Asda will follow Tesco and Sainsbury and introduce its own loyalty card. Such a move would boost sales and lock in customers but would also cost something in excess of £40 million.

BPB INDUSTRIES: Against the backdrop of a depressed building sector, the group will have spent much of 1995 running hard just to stand still. The slump in housing and bad winter weather will have taken their toll as full-year figures on Thursday will testify. Pre-tax profits are expected to reveal a small downturn of around £3 million, to £170 million, with earnings also declining from 23.3p to 22p. In April, NatWest Securities, the broker, reduced its forecast for BPB to take account of the exceptionally cold weather in Europe but remains confident of long-term prospects.

VENDOME LUXURY GROUP: Full-year figures on Wednesday are likely to reveal the ravages of a poor Christmas mainly reflecting the national strikes in France towards the end of last year. This has already caused brokers such as Henderson Crosthwaite to reduce their forecast of pre-tax profits by £20 million, to £253 million. That compares with £237 million last time. Earnings per share are also expected to drop from 27.7p to 25.9p, mainly the result of a higher tax charge. But there have been other problems. The growing strength

of the Swiss franc by almost 20 per cent against the dollar has hit margins during the past two years, with the group unable to pass on price increases. The matter has been made worse by the slower than expected recovery in the rest of Europe. Vendome has almost £300 million in the bank, but it seems the opportunities for suitable acquisitions to expand are limited.

BRITISH BIOTECHNOLOGY: In terms of share price, the group is one of the strongest performers in the market, moving from

£16.83 to a peak of £33.15 this year alone; not bad for a company that has still to make a single penny in profit. But if you believe its followers, it is a company with enormous potential long-term. City hopes are being pinned on Marimastat, its pancreatic cancer treatment, which last week began official Phase 3 trials. But the group does have other drugs in its portfolio that should come on stream before Marimastat. Greig Middleton, the broker, is forecasting a pre-tax loss of £25 million, compared with £26.3 million last time.

HARVEY NICHOLS: Having made its stock market debut in April, full-year figures are unlikely to contain many surprises. Much of the information will have been carried in the prospectus accompanying the float. Even so, brokers will be happy with a final outcome of profits of £12.1 million, against £9 million last time, and a dividend of 4.2p.

HALMA: Full-year figures from the engineer should impress the market, with brokers looking for an increase in pre-tax profits of around £5 million, to £34 million, and earnings per share to higher at 8.5p. The group indicated at the halfway stage that order books were running at record levels.

The Apollo Fire Detectors business should have achieved strong growth after two years of sluggish performance, but it is unlikely that Castell and Fortress will match the 30 per cent growth seen last year.

LOWNDES LAMBERT: Difficult trading conditions and increased competitiveness will make for gloomy reading when the group reports full-year figures on Wednesday. These will show a small increase in revenues but a downturn in pre-tax profits. Brokers are looking for between £13.5 million and £14.5 million, compared with £15.3 million last year.

LONRHO: When interim figures are announced on Friday brokers will no doubt be interested in what progress, if any, is being made with the proposed demerger of the group's mining and non-mining interests into two separate companies to realise shareholder value.

But everything was thrown back into the melting pot in April when the European Commission blocked the proposed merger of Lonrho's platinum interests with those of Gencor of South Africa. Leaving aside the demerger, another confident performance from the streamlined Lonrho is expected, with brokers looking for pre-tax profits of £70 million, compared with £52 million last time.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

GDP grab the spotlight

IN A lean week for British statistics, the focus will be on Friday's final figures for first-quarter gross domestic product. These are expected to confirm that the economy grew 0.4 per cent in the first three months of the year, the same as in the preliminary report. This gives a year-on-year growth rate of 2 per cent. A detailed breakdown of the figures is expected to show that consumer spending rose a robust 0.8 per cent in the quarter, but there will also be new figures for real personal disposable income and the savings ratio.

Economists will also be waiting to see whether Britain's corporate sector stays in financial deficit as in the final quarter of last year. The current account of the balance of payments is expected to have been in deficit in the first quarter to the tune of £2 billion.

The only other UK statistic of note this week is global visible trade for April. The consensus forecast compiled by MMS International is for a deficit of £1.1 billion in the month, a little wider than the £0.9 billion deficit in March. May non-European Union visible trade is also expected and likely to show a deficit of £0.5 billion, similar to the shortfall reported for April.

Otherwise, the financial markets will be focused particularly on figures coming out of America, Japan and Germany. The Federal Open Market Committee meets on Tuesday and Wednesday next week and amid expectations that the Fed may tighten its Fed Funds 0.25 per cent, all American data which will inform any decisions on interest rates will be pounced on.

The main ones this week are consumer confidence and durable goods figures which are broadly expected to confirm that economic activity is robust. In Germany, the Bundesbank's policymaking council meets but no changes in rates is expected. The financial markets will be looking for any policy hints to emerge from the Group of Seven summit in Lyons starting on Thursday.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy PowerGen, Asda, Inspirations, IWP, Sell Eclipse Blinds. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Columbus Group, Chez Gerard, Sunday Express: Buy Reflex, Hold Thorn EMI, The Observer: Hold Stagecoach, National Express, FirstBus, Cowie Group, Sell Railtrack. The Mail on Sunday: Buy Peck; Sell ICI. Independent on Sunday: Buy Cowie Group, Eurotherm.

MGM future in the balance as final bidding closes

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE fate of one of Hollywood's faded giants hangs in the balance today as final bidding closes for the MGM film studios.

Credit Lyonnais, the state-owned French bank, has put the film company up for sale with a price tag of about \$1.5 billion. Among the likely bidders are Polygram, the Anglo-Dutch film and entertainment company owned by Philips Electronics; Disney; production companies Morgan Creek and New Regency; and The News Corporation, parent company of The Times.

Frank Mancuso, the MGM chairman, is also rumoured to be lined up backer, including General Electric, which owns NBC, for a management buyout. But many industry experts are sceptical

that any of the bidders will be prepared to meet the asking price. Last year MGM reported a net loss of \$160 million, although this was barely a third of losses in 1993.

The hard asset value of MGM is about \$1 billion, and it would cost an estimated \$600 million to place the company on a secure financial footing. A successful bidder may also face the loss of Mr Mancuso and other top executives, which would add to another \$1 billion to the cost of a takeover through hiring a new executive team and replacing pipelined projects.

There is further concern over a video distribution rights deal signed with Warner Brothers, which lasts until 2003 and may be binding

even under new ownership. About half film revenues are generated through video sales. Warner Brothers has also been mooted as a possible bidder, although the company is likely to face the opposition of the Federal Trade Commission if it took direct control. The company may limit itself to a link with another bidder.

Bidders have been attracted by the company's famous name, lion symbol and a valuable back library. MGM has a 1,500-title film library, which already generate \$80 million a year in revenue. For a company like Polygram, the sole European bidder, MGM would also provide an entry into Hollywood and potential production and distribution synergies for its existing film business.

Somerfield attracts investors

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

AMID vocal City doubts over the proposed flotation of Somerfield, the supermarket group about 19,000 private investors have already registered an interest. The prospectus is due in mid-July.

A fifth of the share capital of the UK's fifth biggest chain is to be offered to the public through seven authorised shareshops. Somerfield said it was encouraged by the response to the public offer. If retail demand is high, the number of shares for private investors will go up.

Somerfield only announced plans to float on June 14. The offer is being promoted in Somerfield's 600 stores nationwide, as well as through national press advertising.

Somerfield was formerly known as Gateway and is owned by Isosceles, the bid vehicle. Three years ago, the supermarket chain was close to financial collapse, but the company has restructured and last year achieved sales of more than £3 billion. It hopes to open ten new stores a year in the next three years. The float aims to raise £500m.

Four considerations for investors

As worries about the impact of the mad cow episode on public finances have faded, the gilt market has quietly outperformed. From a high of over 190bp in late March, the ten-year spread between gilts and German bonds has narrowed to around 160bp.

There are now four main considerations for gilts — domestic economic fundamentals, politics, the prospects for economic and monetary union and overseas developments.

The domestic fundamentals for gilts should be supportive of lower yields. Although investors rightly have some doubts about the compatibility of the recent interest rate cut with the Government's inflation target of 2.5 per cent or less over the next two years, the inflation outlook over the next year is very favourable.

Manufacturing output is set to decline further as companies battle to bring stocks under control, paving the way for a further sharp drop in producer output price inflation. Pay settlements appear to have peaked and the effects of last year's depreciation in the exchange rate on inflation are diminishing.

Retailers may try to boost margins but this may be limited by the fact that they seem already to have stocked up in anticipation of much stronger consumer demand. If this fails to materialise, margins could come under pressure again. These factors should contribute to a drop in underlying retail price inflation to below 2.5 per cent during the first half of 1997 and a narrowing in inflation differentials with other European countries.

Politics may influence gilt yields increasingly in the run-up to the election. There are two main concerns for investors: the risk that interest rates and taxes are cut inappropriately by the Chancellor in a bid to revive the Government's popularity, and concerns about a change of government. Past experience suggests that the emergence of a political risk premium could raise ten-year gilts by up to 50bp relative to fair value. Any political risk premium should

prove temporary. The important point to remember is that whichever party wins the election it will face the same constraints on policy.

Monetary policy actions will be constrained by the need to set interest rates to hit the inflation target: something which the Governor of the Bank of England will be only too willing to point out publicly. Fiscal policy is constrained by the need to maintain downward pressure on the budget deficit. This applies particularly to an incoming Labour government if it wants to be able to keep its options open on economic and monetary union.

Increased optimism that EMU will take place in 1999, at least for a few key countries, and a perception that others might join by 2001 or thereabouts, has contributed to a marked convergence in European bond yields this year. Such optimism has largely passed the UK by, presumably

because of the widespread assumption that the UK will exercise its opt-out. This is too pessimistic. It would take only a small shift in favour of Britain joining a single currency at some point in the next five years, presumably associated with the election of a Labour government, to trigger a marked fall in gilt yields relative to other countries. A 25 per cent probability of British membership over this time horizon would be worth about 20bp off the current level of ten-year gilt yields.

The international environment is probably the least helpful aspect for gilts. As overseas activity recovers, global bond yields are likely to move erratically higher over the next year. It will be difficult for gilts to buck this trend. Politics aside, the combination of falling inflation and greater optimism about British EMU participation could drive down the spread between gilts and German bonds to around 140bp by the year-end and still further during 1997.

DAVID WALTON
Goldman Sachs
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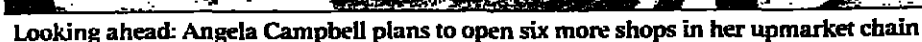
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Small businesses succeed if they have drive and ambition, and a customer-focused approach, according to a Government survey launched today with a £2.5 million advertising campaign to promote Business Links advice centres.

Jane Cavanagh aims for success with computer games

Chemical Research Holdings, also from the Durlacher/Neill Clerk stable, stems from the equally fashionable but wholly different biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector, where it designs and supplies software to leading companies. It plans to raise money next month to expand its overseas network.



The eponymous founder sees this fortuitous escape as a good sign — this week Angela Campbell Opticians will announce that it is joining the Ofex market to raise £550,000.

The money will be used to expand the upmarket chain from its existing three shops — in Manchester, Altrincham in Cheshire, and Ramsbottom in Lancashire

The designers may not be household names, but in the fashion world, the likes of Oliver Peoples and LA Eyewear are recognised as world leaders.

To grow the business she brought in Stephen Dowd, a former marketing expert from Dixons, who will help give the opticians a strong identity on the high street.

Though Angela Campbell's plans are to remain in the north of England in the immediate future, her sights are set high. "I'm a world trendsetter in spectacle wear," she says.

MORAG PRESTON

CLARE STEWART

1996	High	Low	Mkt cap (million)	Price	Why	Yld	P/E	1996	High	Low	Mkt cap (million)	Price	Why	Yld	P/E	1996	High	Low	Mkt cap (million)	Price	Why	Yld	P/E	1996	High	Low	Mkt cap (million)	Price	Why	Yld	P/E				
				+	-	+	-					+	-	+	-					+	-	+	-					+	-	+	-				
134	100	18	7100	AMCO Corp	114	-	1	55	16.0	260	152	17.50	EGS Inc	258	-	58	2.9	12.5	190	137	10	36.20	Lancashire En	145	1	34	11.7	6	45	128	Revolution Pac	8	-	-	-
135	100	18	7100	AMCO Corp	114	-	1	55	16.0	260	152	17.50	EGS Inc	258	-	58	2.9	12.5	190	137	10	36.20	Lancashire En	145	1	34	11.7	6	45	128	Revolution Pac	8	-	-	-
136	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			75	83	3.55	United Hls	265	-	5	5.6		2590	2500	57.50	Lancashire En	290	-	200	5.0	90	63	478	Reactor	91				
137	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			1700	860	76.20	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	The Rector	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
138	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			17	11	4.67	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
139	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			395	255	13.90	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
140	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			16	11	4.67	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
141	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			25	25	13.90	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
142	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			26	80	14.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
143	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			16	80	14.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
144	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			31	36	50.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
145	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			116	81	16.90	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
146	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			114	130	15.20	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
147	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			492	325	42.70	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
148	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			138	122	46.70	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
149	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			215	165	50.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
150	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			269	75	41.10	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
151	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			183	159	12.50	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
152	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			85	172	35.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
153	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			142	153	6.70	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
154	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			343	255	19.80	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
155	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			108	128	14.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
156	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			257	14	127.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
157	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
158	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
159	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
160	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
161	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
162	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
163	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
164	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
165	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
166	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
167	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
168	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
169	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
170	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
171	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
172	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
173	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
174	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
175	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
176	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
177	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
178	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
179	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
180	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
181	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24	145	225	225	27.50	Orion Ind	285	-	2	73	4	39	30	Richmond Wynn	4				
182	101	15	2930	Academy Sports	160	+	7			145	35	6.00	Orion Ind	1665	-	2	24																		

	Bank Rupee	Bank Shilling
Australia S	2.05	1.81
Austria Sch	17.52	18.02
Belgium F	46.86	45.86
Canada S	2.308	2.024
Cyprus CypL	7.756	0.70
Denmark Kr	6.91	8.91
Finland Mk	7.751	7.751
France Fr	8.36	7.75
Germany DM	2.56	2.56
Greece Dr	3.7	3.62
Hong Kong S	12.55	11.55
India Rupee	1.02	1.02
Israel Sh	5.40	4.79
Italy Lira	2469	2521
Japan Yen	1.02	1.02
Malta	2.782	2.565
Netherlands Gld	2.41	2.16
New Zealand S	10.59	9.76
Monetary R	29.43	29.43
S Alaska No	7.127	6.471
Spain Ptas	206.50	181.20
USA S	1.00	1.00
Switzerland Fr	2.06	1.890
Turkey Lira	1.285	1.285

Country	1995	1996
USA \$	1.635	1.505

Rates at Friday's close of trading for small denomination bank notes as supplied by Barclays.

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US dollar
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German mark
2.3551 (+0.0142)
Exchange index
85.9 (+0.3)
Bank of England official

FT 30 share
2743.0 (-39.7)
FT-SE 100
3722.3 (-31.3)
New York Dow Jones
5705.23 (+55.78)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
22530.65 (+241.26)

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Overcrowded banking sector frightens off BAT

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

AT INDUSTRIES, which owns Eagle Star and Allied Dunbar, has decided to sell the company because it believes the retail banking sector is too crowded and competitive.

rich companies, including NatWest Bank and Prudential, which have been linked with building societies. The Prudential is believed to have initiated talks with the Woolwich and the Alliance & Leicester, aiming to negotiate an acquisition before one of the two reaches the stock market and converts to a bank.

operation, which would market deposit accounts and mortgages directly to the consumer, and the creation of a unit trust service for individual investors.

demerger and partial flotation. Alternatively, BAT could buy in another leading fund management house. It was rumoured to have been in talks last year with Gartmore, the large fund manager now part of NatWest.

Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

Last month the BAT group announced first-quarter profits up 16 per cent to £600 million, with a 2 per cent contribution from the financial services division. Profits at Allied Dunbar fell 15 per cent to £46 million, but BAT said there were signs of a revival in the UK market.

Lawyer's fees for rail work

LEADING City solicitors have disputed claims that thousands of contracts drawn up as part of the privatisation of the railways cost £70 million in legal fees.

BTR speed-up
BTR, the industrial conglomerate, is believed to be speeding up a review of its businesses and could be close to clinching sales. Completion of the programme, which could lead to a third of the business being hived off, is expected by the autumn. Some divisions may be sold ahead of that. Priorities are the US aggregates business and its Taiwan polymers operation.

The review was set in train by Ian Sirachan, the new chief executive who took over at the beginning of this year.

SFO mission

Investigators from the Serious Fraud Office are expected to travel to Japan this week as part of an inquiry into whether a former Sumitomo copper dealer acted alone in amassing \$1.8 billion losses in unauthorised trading. They want to interview Sumitomo officials and Japanese authorities, but have not disclosed whether they will meet Yasuo Hamanaka, the senior copper trader at the centre of the case.

Barings probe

A former senior Barings executive accused of not taking "vigorous" enough steps to curb Nick Leeson's mounting exposure to the Far East money markets will today face tough questions from members of the Commons Treasury Select Committee. Ron Baker, former head of the merchant bank's Financial Products Group, is expected to be closely examined as the MPs resume their inquiry into the £830 million collapse of Barings.

Age bill

The cost of providing pensions to Europe's growing number of over-60s could double some countries' debt early in the next century and threaten hopes for a stable single currency, according to a report published today by Patrick Foley, Lloyds Bank's chief economic adviser.

Eurotunnel set for demanding AGM in Paris

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SIR ALASTAIR MORTON, Eurotunnel's co-chairman, looks like facing his bloodiest shareholder encounter in Paris this week when the troubled bi-national company is unlikely to be able to present a restructuring deal to its annual meeting.

protecting or enhancing travel concession.

deal with creditors. Thursday's AGM is set to trigger reactions as furious as those at last year's British Gas AGM when thousands protested against executive pay.

operation, which would market deposit accounts and mortgages directly to the consumer, and the creation of a unit trust service for individual investors.

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Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

Expectations are growing that Eurotunnel's banks, who are not being paid interest on key debt, will take over half of the company's enlarged equity in a long-haggled refinancing agreement. British shareholders might well be relieved to keep as big a stake in the company and many private shareholders are concerned at

One sop to all parties could be an agreement by the British and French Governments to extend Eurotunnel's franchise indefinitely, like the newer franchise for London & Continental Railways. The franchise has already been extended once.

Preparing for a flood of aggrieved shareholders, Eurotunnel last week changed the venue from the small Maison de la Chimie to the enormous Grand Auditorium at the Palais des Congrès on Place de la Porte Maillot.

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Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

Thomas Cook to buy Sunworld

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE most significant shake-up in the UK travel industry for three years will take place this week when Thomas Cook announces its acquisition of Sunworld, the UK's fifth largest tour operator, for £40 million.

cent stake in First Choice, a partnership which has failed to bear the fruit Cook had hoped for.

deal with creditors. Thursday's AGM is set to trigger reactions as furious as those at last year's British Gas AGM when thousands protested against executive pay.

operation, which would market deposit accounts and mortgages directly to the consumer, and the creation of a unit trust service for individual investors.

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Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

The move will create a giant company capable of challenging the might of Thomson, the UK's largest tour operator, and Airtrans and First Choice, its rivals.

Cook has been gradually unwinding the tie-up and now holds 11 per cent of First Choice, but is expected to sell the stake after First Choice's results to be published on July 11.

deal with creditors. Thursday's AGM is set to trigger reactions as furious as those at last year's British Gas AGM when thousands protested against executive pay.

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Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

It will give Cook the combination of a strong travel brand and wide distribution network from which to build up market share. That alliance involved Cook taking a 21 per

cent stake in First Choice, a partnership which has failed to bear the fruit Cook had hoped for.

deal with creditors. Thursday's AGM is set to trigger reactions as furious as those at last year's British Gas AGM when thousands protested against executive pay.

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Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

Sanction on lawyer overturned

By JASON NISSE

THE Solicitors Complaints Bureau has overturned a previous sanction handed down to Peter Gold, the former senior partner of Timmuss Sainer Dechert.

advice given to Maurice and Michael Bennett, directors of Oasis Stores, the fashion group, before the collapse of Pinewood, the original owners of Oasis.

deal with creditors. Thursday's AGM is set to trigger reactions as furious as those at last year's British Gas AGM when thousands protested against executive pay.

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demerger and partial flotation. Alternatively, BAT could buy in another leading fund management house. It was rumoured to have been in talks last year with Gartmore, the large fund manager now part of NatWest.

Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

Last month *The Times* reported that Mr Gold, who is still a consultant with the City law firm, was reprimanded over his

The Bennett brothers bought Oasis from the receivers of Pinewood for £1.5 million in early 1991. The founders of Oasis, Graham and Edwina Brown, are now suing Oasis for return of the company. Though Mr Gold

deal with creditors. Thursday's AGM is set to trigger reactions as furious as those at last year's British Gas AGM when thousands protested against executive pay.

operation, which would market deposit accounts and mortgages directly to the consumer, and the creation of a unit trust service for individual investors.

demerger and partial flotation. Alternatively, BAT could buy in another leading fund management house. It was rumoured to have been in talks last year with Gartmore, the large fund manager now part of NatWest.

Ally Dunbar into a strong UK company, while developing Eagle Star's potential markets overseas.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

FORMAL GROUP PLC
(Incorporated and Registered in England number 1513612)
First Floating and Placing and Open Offer of 10,000,000 New Ordinary shares of 50p each at 60p per share.

WILSON LARGO & PARTNERS
IN ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of creditors in the above matter is to be held at 10, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF, on Wednesday, 27th June 1996, at 10.30am.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Sadler's Wells Foundation
Scheme for the alteration of the objects of the charity.
Reference: AS-207276/37152

LEGAL NOTICES
RELIANCE RECRUITMENT LIMITED IN LIQUIDATION
Notice is hereby given that the above company has been placed into liquidation by the court.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE CHANCERY
In the matter of the estate of the late Sir John Mordaunt, Bart.

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR
1996 SECTION
PLATE 123456789

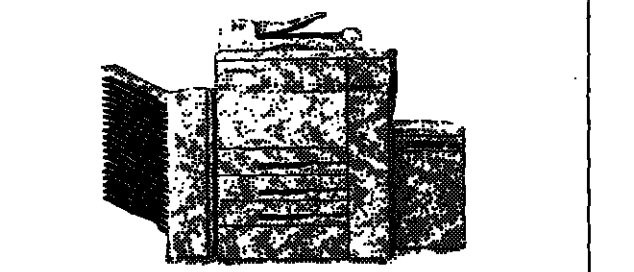
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SHARP
INTELLIGENT THINKING

Euro 96 had a disgracefully ansporing start. Or so you would think if you judged the opening matches by the yellow and red cards issued. Notebookfuls of bookings suggested sullen battles of cheats and bullies rather than the innocent elegance of the world's favourite team game. Had European football descended to a level of cynicism not seen for a generation?

Well no, actually. Anyone viewing the games saw no viciousness and little ill temper. Rather, players and spectators were bemused, and some games spilt, by intrusive officiousness of self-important referees. Things soon calmed down but the tournament will be affected to the end as key players are suspended, perhaps for no more than a minor discourtesy. Doubtless, the Uefa football authorities had urged refs to stamp their authority from the start to forestall bad play. Doubtless too, the odd official reckoned that a commanding stern display would get him noticed by the governing body and chosen for a top match.

How different from cricket, where rubicund umpires, usually county bowlers or batsmen in their time, tend to identify with players rather than the authorities. In the world of business regulation, however, these avuncular figures would be damned as having been "captured" by the industry they were paid to police.

Self-regulation in the City can still be cosy. Sadly, human nature being what it is, some of those beholden to the authorities for advancement

Show a red card to those whistle-happy referees



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

tend to behave like the first round refs of Euro 96. They are, after all, only doing their job on behalf of consumers, investors or competing Davids. They often deserve our gratitude. But the officious, ambitious and politically correct can inflict serious harm in the process.

As in Euro 96, regulators can stultify the game and they can deprive it of key players. Regulation of retail financial services, for instance, threatens to wipe out local professional advisers as a by-product of rooting out the undoubted abuses. Regulation of British Gas resulted in customers suffering worse service and having more cause for complaint than at any time since privatisation. Telecoms regulators ensured that telephone boxes worked, prices tumbled and service was transformed. But their determination to force in competition has probably snatched away forever the prize of a national broadband grid.

Worst of all, though more insidiously, over-zealous regulators can make people think an industry is far worse than it actually is. That undoes their good work, making customers feel worse off.

Life assurance regulators had to

act firmly to stop long-standing abuses. But their high-profile campaign on personal pensions, perhaps inevitably, exacerbated public distrust. Sales have slumped further just when customers are being offered better deals and when pension protection is more vital.

Last week Ian Byatt, the water industry regulator, admitted that the greatest challenge now facing water companies and Ofwat was probably to win public confidence. Mr Byatt is the best of the utility regulators, though he could have kept current bills lower had he taken the short-term City view that has come to dominate water and electric-

ity since they were thrown open to takeovers. You would have to stretch credulity to blame Ofwat for Yorkshire Water giving too high a priority to parsimony and making an ass of itself in last summer's drought. Ofwat has duly thumped the company in the wallet.

In a startling display of political incorrectness, however, Mr Byatt leapt to the defence of the industry in general. Its record in cutting costs and delivering investment economically is better than he believed possible at privatisation. And its service in the drought was far better than in the old days. Half the companies imposed no restrictions at all, unheard-of in the 1970s and 1980s. Complaints were down again. To my mind, that is a sign of good regulation; a sustained rise in complaints should earn a regulator the sack. Yet water is under constant attack, making its customers more resentful. Yesterday, *The Observer* "revealed" tax breaks that were built in and publicised at privatisation to stop prices rising even more.

Like banks or insurance companies, utilities will never be lauded for supplying basic essential services efficiently, with ample reward.

Rightly, we only notice power cuts, late trains or unexpected bills. Utilities are under attack because they were privatised by a government that is now unpopular and because a quirk of the RPI-X price formula sent profits soaring in the recession. Oddly, a change of government and a cathartic levy might eventually help their image.

Water is more unpopular because charges have risen sharply — even though Ofwat has knocked off £2 billion — to pay for massive unseen investment. Companies could have done more to tell customers what their money has bought, and to press for charging systems that shield poorer households.

All utilities should show restraint in top pay even if takeover pressure does not allow it in dividends. BT has shown that utilities can win back confidence if they try hard enough. The next step may be for utilities to take the risk on inflation and get rid of the misunderstood RPI-X formula. Simple pledges not to raise prices for four years would carry more weight with consumers.

Regulators also need to learn, via their employers, that the measure of their success is public satisfaction with their industry, not merely an economic calculus, even prices. They should avoid disruptive change that brings mass job losses or endangers standards. There is no virtue in blowing their whistles shrilly all the time to show their zeal. That, presumably, is what Uefa eventually told the Euro 96 referees.

Land of hope and despair

The Landscapes of Man. Radio 3, 9.35pm.

Susan Marling, launching her series about the rebirth of landscape interest, says that what is needed is fluency in the language of land and its topography. She would be hard put to improve on the fluency of the experts she has trailed. Her star performer is the 70-year-old landscape visionary Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe who says "I should look beyond what the eye sees and concentrate on what it captures the mind. The author Richard North is strong on the impact of the green lobby. His philosophy: greens see landscape more as scenes of immense threat than places of comfort and beauty. Hence his definition of the environment as a landscape about which we are depressed.

Cities of Dreams and Desires. Radio 4, 7.45pm.

So what happened to Tom and Louise, Isambard and Nancy, an Father Damien? Was there life after *A View of the City from Westminster Bridge* repeated last Saturday night? Manny Draycott Lai's sequel, *Cities of Dreams and Desires* dusts down and reactivates his characters. Same director (Cherry Cookson), one cast change (Anton Lesser now plays Tom) and same interplay between people and buildings. This time, the characters are caught in plans to erect private hospital next door to threatened Guy's. Strong characterisation, much soul-searching and social comment, excellent location sound, but far, far too much music. Peter Davall

Philip Bassett says most companies may be indifferent to a statutory wage level

Minimum pay, minimal issue

Insistence by business leaders and Government ministers that Labour's plans for a national minimum wage will push up pay levels and hit jobs are undercut today by new evidence that suggests strongly that most companies will not feel hard hit by a national minimum.

Even further, it suggests that three-quarters of them are either neutral about, or in favour of, a statutory floor to pay in Britain. Labour Party leaders are delighted at the findings of a survey of the impact of a minimum wage published today by Reed, the UK employment agency.

Business organisations such as the CBI, which maintain strongly that industry in Britain is firmly opposed to a national minimum, will find them less comfortable.

Business shows a close interest in the party's plans to sign the social chapter and to introduce a national minimum wage (NMW). Against this background, Labour is readying itself to launch shortly a new drive to promote the NMW, which will emphasise its centrality to Labour's plans for economic improvement and social justice.

The move over an NMW is in line with Labour's new proposals on rights at work. It is controversial because of what some trade union leaders see as a watering down of previous commitments, espe-

cially on the availability of full protection rights from unfair dismissal for a worker from day one of employment.

The proposals were issued at the weekend, on the morning of England's titanic struggle at Wembley with Spain, in what some Labour leaders privately acknowledged was a "de-emphasised" manner.

While the proposals, drawn up like the party's minimum wage plans in co-operation with business, unquestionably mark a scaling-back of some of what Labour's modernisers always saw as the two pro-union pledges by John Smith, the former party leader, they are for business in particular a fleshing out of commitments which his successor, Tony Blair, has consistently given.

These issues are representation at work, union recognition where supported by a majority, a NMW, signing the social chapter, reunification of GCHQ, and basic employment rights under the law for all employees.

Labour is convinced that these minimum standards, in line with those operating in other EU member states, will not only be electorally popular, but will be largely irrelevant to most companies in Britain, many of whose own standards are already substantially higher.

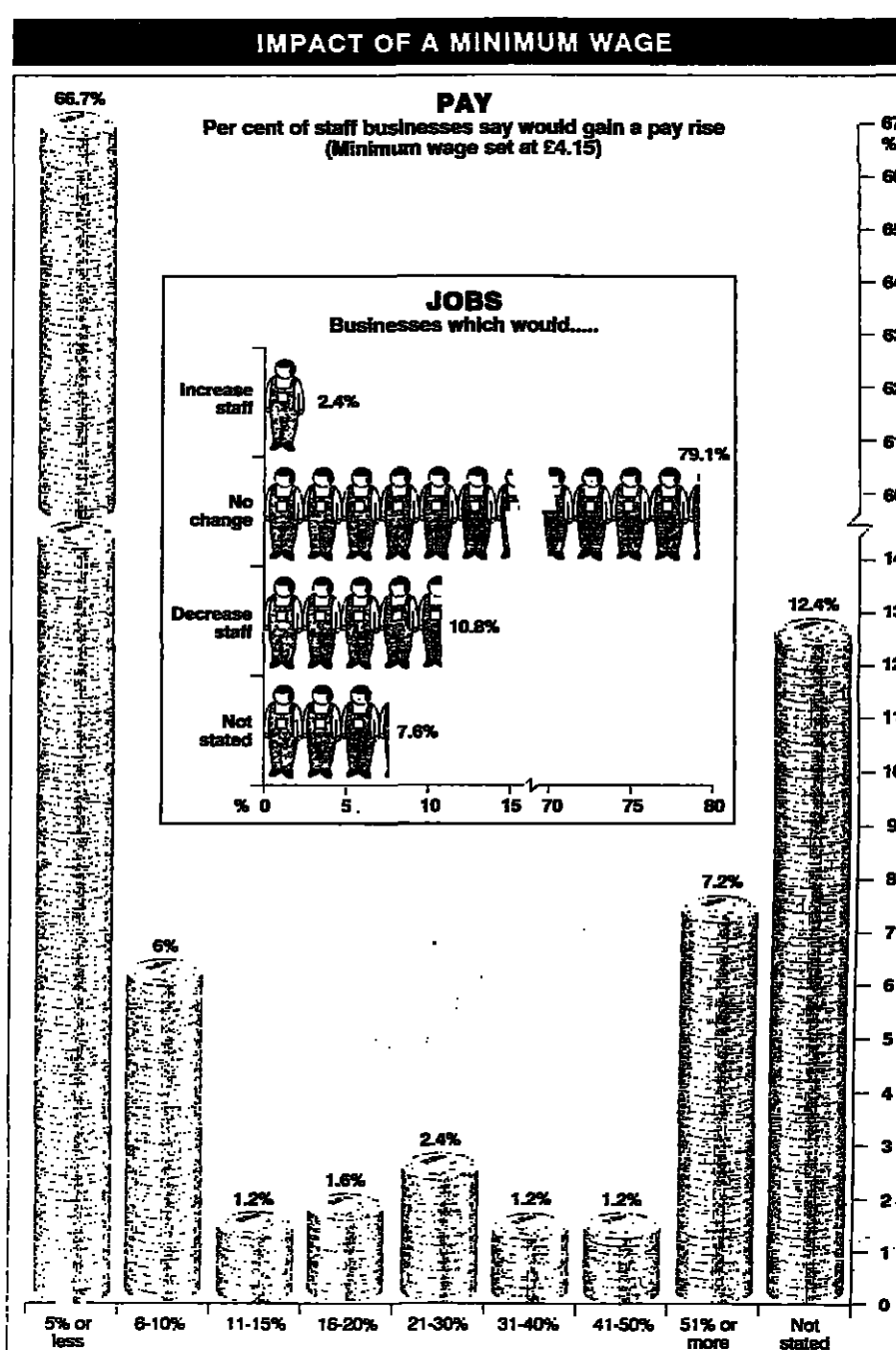
Although Labour will not set a rate for the NMW until it should succeed to office — and

then only after close consultation with business as well as the unions — it is clear that any level finally chosen is likely to be lower than minimum levels offered already by many successful companies. In the retail sector, for example, the current minimum wage at Tesco is £3.83 an hour, while at Marks & Spencer it is £4 and at Sainsbury's £4.

Reed's survey today suggests that even if a minimum wage is set at a rate higher than these figures, at £4.15, contrary to what business bodies and the Government have both claimed it will have little or no economic impact on most firms.

Picking a level which has been previously suggested by some unions as a target for Labour's NMW on the basis of a link with official earnings figures — a link Labour has already formally abandoned — Reed's survey of 250 companies across a range of sectors finds, as the graphic shows, that a national minimum would have only a very limited impact. On pay, only 5 per cent of staff in the companies surveyed would get any rise at all under an NMW set at £4.15. A third of the firms covered by the survey pay less than £4.00 as their own current minimum.

Most of the claims by business and the Government about the impact on employment of a national minimum rest on firms maintaining current wage differentials, but the Reed figures show companies are fairly evenly divided on whether they would do so, with 37 per cent saying they would, and 35 per cent stressing they would not.



TEST DRIVE YOUR BRAIN



WALK () NEXT
ZERO () CALF
EVEN () ADDS
KNIT () INTO
CLAD () FLEE
KERB () YELP
GERM () ROAD

On each line place a letter in the space which, when substituted for the first letter of the word either side, will form another word in each case. The seven letters used will give another word reading downwards. What is it?

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Mensa

Even given the proportion of employers who would maintain differentials, the effect on jobs would seem to be small. As many as 79 per cent of companies say that even a minimum of £4.15 — considerably higher than most business leaders expect a NMW to be — would make no change to their current permanent staffing levels, and 77 per cent say their temporary staff numbers would not change. The figures were similar for projected future staff levels.

While such findings will not close down economists' arguments about the effects on employment of an NMW, they deal a blow to those who argue, against the grain of considerable academic evidence from the US in particular, that a minimum wage means job losses.

UK ministers and business

leaders will be looking very closely at US employment rolls over the coming months to find any effect from America's recent 90-cent increase in its \$4.25 minimum — its first rise since 1989.

But they are discomfited by the fact that because a NMW is so electorally popular in the US that almost 100 Republican congressmen broke with their party to vote with President Bill Clinton's Democrats to secure the increase.

Such popularity may well be reflected in Reed's survey of UK companies. Asked about the principle of an NMW, a total of 49 per cent of those studied said a national minimum was either very or quite good — a much higher degree

of support than business bodies such as the CBI will acknowledge. Taken with a further 26.5 per cent who view it neutrally, the level of unconcern or clear support in firms in favour of a NMW stands at 75 per cent.

In the service sector it is higher, with 52 per cent of the companies surveyed in support. Although only 18 per cent of retailing firms are in favour, with 36 per cent regarding it as either quite or very bad, retailing companies neutral to a minimum make it a relatively even proposition.

Firms would be even more in favour if there were regional variations, though Labour's forthcoming document on the minimum wage will make it clear the party rejects this, as it does sectoral differences based on industry.

Minimum wages will particularly benefit low-paid women. Labour argues, and today the Government's Equal Opportunities Commission will show in its annual report that women's pay and employment conditions still lag behind men's (though it will show, too, record complaints from men about gender discrimination against them).

Academics from London University's Goldsmiths College will also show today that actresses earn some 15 per cent less than male actors, while the Fawcett Society, the equality campaigning body, last week said that many low-paid women earn less than such overall dividends.

Earnings in the economy generally are holding steady, and even showing some initial

signs of falling back as inflation declines. The exception is managers' pay, which is actually making ground against inflation.

Still sore after the hard pounding given to boardroom pay in the "fat cat" row which led to last year's Greenbury report, company executives' leaders will return to the fray over top pay tomorrow when the Institute of Directors examines the issue of executive pay in small firms, which IOD leaders claim were largely forgotten in the big company-dominated Greenbury row.

Labour's plans for a national minimum wage could bite hardest among small businesses and the sector's leaders will be amongst those lobbying most vociferously against Labour's proposals.

Polling evidence suggests that even this will not be enough to assuage the anger of small businesses at what they feel the Government's economic management has done to them.

Labour is tailoring many of its policies to meet the needs of business now, including those of small firms. A minimum wage is never likely to be favoured entirely by British business, but findings such as the Reed survey reinforce other evidence that the divisions are not so great. Away from the lobbying of the business organisations, the real views of business regarding a national minimum wage may be more complex and more sympathetic than industry leaders sometimes like to suggest.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 39

ADIPSON
(b) A drink that allays thirst. The Greek neuter of *adipos* not thirsty, a privative + *dipsa* thirst. "A drink in the infancy of a fever should be an adiposon."

BASHAW
(b) The earlier form of the Turkish title *Pasha*. Probably from the Old Turkish *bash* a head. Fielding: "He addressed me with all the insolence of a bashaw to a Circassian slave."

BOANTHROPY
(c) A form of madness in which a man believes himself to be an ox (see *Daniel IV*, 32). "The exact form of the disease which would be boanthropy, I have not found any notice of."

BOURG
(c) Used by historical writers in the earlier sense of town or village under the shadow of a castle, or of "continental" as distinguished from English towns; occasionally also in the modern French sense of market town. From the Late Latin *burgus* a town. Tennyson, *Enid*, 1859: "Ye think the rustic cackle of your bourg / The murmur of your world."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1. Rd7+! Nxd7 2. Bxb2 and White emerges a piece ahead.

RADIO 1
6.00am Paul Ross 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Ross 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 5.00 Peter Dinkley 7.00 Sports Zone 10.00 James Whale 11.00am Ian Collins

RADIO 2
6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 8.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thorne 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.00 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Dave Davis 8.00 Big Ben 9.30 News 10.00 World Today 10.30 News 11.00 World Today 11.30 News 12.00 News 12.30 News 1.00 News 1.30 News 1.45 News 2.00 News 2.30 News 3.00 News 3.30 News 4.00 News 4.30 News 5.00 News 5.30 News 6.00 News 6.30 News 7.00 News 7.30 News 8.00 News 8.30 News 9.00 News 9.30 News 10.00 News 10.30 News 11.00 News 11.30 News 12.00 News 12.30 News 1.00 News 1.30 News 1.45 News 2.00 News 2.30 News 3.00 News 3.30 News 4.00 News 4.30 News 5.00 News 5.30 News 6.00 News 6.30 News 7.00 News 7.30 News 8.00 News 8.30 News 9.00 News 9.30 News 10.00 News 10.30 News 11.00 News 11.30 News 12.00 News 12.30 News 1.00 News 1.30 News 1.45 News 2.00 News 2.30 News 3.00 News 3.30 News 4.00 News 4.30 News 5.00 News 5.30 News 6.00 News 6.30 News 7.00 News 7.30 News 8.00 News 8.30 News 9.00 News 9.30 News 10.00 News 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Murder most torrid in dull old Dixieland

Well, Travis was always going to die, wasn't he? To wonder everyone had a motive for his murder. "I'll kill him," said millionaire Edward Burton, whose blonde, virginal daughter Reese had married the cad in all good faith. "I'll kill you!" said Reese herself, on discovering that he had a mistress. "I will do something very nasty to you indeed!" swore mild-mannered, curly-haired Lane, on finding out he had embezzled her trust fund. And "Take this!" said chestnut-haired Peyton, bashing him on the bonce with a bottle. But golly, now the body has disappeared from the boat of Peyton's car. Will Reese find out that Peyton is double-crosser? And another thing. When you smog your best friend's husband in the shower, doesn't water get up your nose?

Savannah (ITV, Friday) may not be the usual fare of these columns

but, on the other hand, what fun to look at a drama in which hair colour plays such a decisive function in telling one person from another. Reese, Peyton and Lane break all the rules of feminine association by being the best of friends yet equally pretty, not to say identical. But as in all good fairy-tales, their material circumstances are wildly different, with Reese rich and pampered, Peyton a "church mouse" and Lane a would-be career girl in New York City. If one of them were plain or spotty, the story would flood with interest but, alas, this is an Aaron Spelling concoction (*Dynasty*, *Melrose Place*) and each actor has a personal grum waiting just off-screen with brush, hocket, curvy-cum and hairdryer.

I toyed with far-fetched storylines. Was Reese "keeping herself" until her wedding night because she was in fact married? Since the father of the bride is the

scurry Ray Wise (from *Twin Peaks*), would the words "Fire, walk with me" have any significance later? But the regular story was sensational enough, with lots of scope for thrills and revenge. The worst aspect of *Savannah* for me was that it could have been anywhere. John Berendt's recent book *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* — concerning a real-life murder trial in Savannah — has prepared me for a richly characterised place of light and shadow, monumental cemeteries, elegant squares and slick social undercurrents, while the Savannah of *Savannah* has the depth and flavour of Crawley.

Elsewhere, it was a strange weekend for anyone who wanted to watch television because, by conventional standards, there wasn't any. Football was cancelled, the cricket was leaving meagre crumbs such as

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Casualty repeats or the semi-final of *Masters of the Air* to satisfy national longings. No *Bananas* (BBC1) persevered, of course. Nothing can stop *No Bananas*. Every week the story moves on, but it only leaves the viewer thinking "Oh, I see the story has moved on, then". Kaye's Spitfire pilot boyfriend Toby was shot down yesterday and she could not find his body. What would we do without the potato? asked

history that this would happen to him. Summer 1940 and all that. As I may have said before, it comes out by the yard, this stuff.

So *Masters of the Air* (BBC1) has its final next Sunday, which is rather unfortunate, given the football. Yesterday we had the last semi-final, in which all contestants made ice-cream, which was nice (this is *Masters of the Air*, not *Euro*), and it was good to see that the portions had grown more substantial. Menus formerly listed "celeric pompadours with braised raspberries bookcases on a fufon of spinach with pine nut cushions" — and when this exquisite item was turned out on the plate, it was the size of a Ritz cracker.

Although it was recorded weeks ago, it seemed as though the male judges were all wondering what they were doing there, when they could have been at home watching the football. "Ah, what would we do without the potato?" asked

guest judge Richard Wilson distractedly, raising a fork to his mouth. Lucky not to be struck by a frying pan, in my opinion. I hate the craven expressions of the cooks on *Masters of the Air* during the tasting process. They watch each mouthful like tethered puppies waiting to be patted on the head.

Unmissable on Saturday nights is *Dancing in the Streets: A Rock and Roll History* (BBC2). Well researched, intelligent and beautifully made, it takes a well-worn subject and makes it fresh. True, the record producers have probably told their stories a thousand times before ("And I said, Elvis who?" but much of the footage is new and the music is great. The first instalment described how black artists such as Little Richard broke into the mainstream of pop music. The second, on Saturday, saw the phenomenon of the Beatles knock-

them back again. Pity the Shirelles, who topped the charts with *Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?* For them, the wind changed smartly. Having had no success with *Go Now*, they saw it sweep the board when the Moody Blues did a cover version. Finally, most television can be parodied, or mentally, like presents. "Mum would like this," I think. "Julie would adore that." Future *Fantastic on Friday* night (BBC1) was a terrifyingly flaky piece of television, with Gillian Anderson of *The X-Files* ostensibly examining the evidence for aliens, her bogus objective detachment somehow leading her into questions such as "So when can we meet these aliens?" I kept thinking of the arch-debunker Catherine Bennett (of BBC2's *Strange Days*) watching it too, and foaming every minute.

Kicking & Screaming, page 27

6.00am Business Breakfast (41786)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceelax) (72057)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceelax) (205589)

9.20 Pave Leith's Tricks of the Trade (i) (7395502)

9.30 The Natural World (i) (s) (Ceelax) (252089)

10.20 My Favourite Nosh (2516415)

10.50 News (Ceelax) and weather (9888960)

10.55 Cricket — Second Test: England v India. Coverage of the final day's play from Lord's (s) includes 12.00 News and weather (7738569)

1.00pm News (Ceelax) and weather (75144)

1.30 Regional News and weather (39521231)

1.35 Neighbours (s) (Ceelax) (3355976)

1.55 Wimbledon 96 and Cricket — Second Test: Desmond Lynn and Desmond Lynn and Sue Barker introduce action from the opening day of the tennis championships at Wimbledon. Plus coverage from Lord's of the second day's play in the Second Test (801036)

5.30 Neighbours (i) (Ceelax) (s) (461250)

5.50 News (Ceelax) and weather (279)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (231)

7.00 That's Showbusiness. Mike Smith tests the showbiz knowledge of celebrities. This week, actress Cheryl Murray and comedian Kevin Day take on comic actor Karl Howman and comedian Helen Austin (8163)

7.30 Watchdog: Value for Money. Vanessa Feliz presents a guide to successful shopping (s) (415)

8.00 EastEnders. Kathy gets a much-needed night out with Phil, while Phil spends the night with the boys (Ceelax) (s) (7811)

8.30 The Liver Birds. In the last of the series the recently reunited friends look like separating for good again after a furious row about their respective husbands leading to Beryl deciding to move out of Sandra's house (s) (Ceelax) (3618)

9.00 News (Ceelax) regional news and weather (4328)

9.30 Panorama. Within the next few months, a British medical team will make history, by transplanting a pig's heart inside a human being. Although the operation is controversial many doctors now see the use of animal organs as the only answer to combat the shortage of organs for transplant. Panorama talks to the scientists planning the operation about this new era in medicine (Ceelax) (s) (77075)

10.10 Today at Wimbledon. Sue Barker introduces the first of the night's round-ups from the All-England Club. (679368)

11.10 FILM: The Taking of Pelham 123 (1974) starring Walter Matthau, Redd Foxx, Martin Mull, Richard E. Grant, Earl Hindman and James Broderick. Classy thriller about four desperate men hatching a hijack plot with a difference. They take over a New York subway car, holding it to ransom, and demand that a million dollars be delivered to them within an hour in return for the passengers' lives. Walter Matthau delivers a wonderful black comedy performance as the policeman in charge of negotiations. Directed by Joseph Sargent (454811)

12.50am Weather (5593812)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Put in the VideoPlus+ code for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ (V), PlusCode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Open University: Planet in Perspective (5236279) 6.25 TV Images, Messages and Ideologies (1238415)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Ceelax and signing) (3445095)

7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (1756960) 7.55 Blue Peter (i) (7174873) 8.20 Johnson and Friends (i) (268471)

8.30 Songs of Praise (i) (Ceelax) (s) (5051328)

9.05 The Fugitive (i) (Ceelax) (2081502)

10.00 Playdays (i) (2543569) 10.25 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) (i) (599453) 11.15 Camp Wilder (i) (4118078) 11.40 Consuming Passions (i) (2980219) 11.45 Model Millie (i) (6023328)

12.00 Wimbledon 96 and Cricket — Second Test: England v India. Desmond Lynn and Sue Barker introduce action from the opening day of the tennis championships at Wimbledon. Plus coverage from Lord's of the second day's play in the Second Test (801036)

3.55pm News (Ceelax) regional news and weather (8839750)

4.00 Cartoon (6838415) 4.05 Fudge (Ceelax) (8039958) 4.30 POT (Ceelax) (328) 5.00 Newsround (Ceelax) (8008909) 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceelax) (s) (1687144)

5.35 Wimbledon 96 and Cricket — Second Test: Further coverage of the All-England Championships. Plus action from the Second Test at Lord's (5934234)

8.00 In the Blood: The End of Evolution. Steve Jones looks at how human beings are controlling their genetic destiny (Ceelax) (s) (702637)

8.50 Building Sites: Alton Estate. Personal reflections on 20th-century architecture. Sir Richard Rogers praises the Alton housing estate in Roehampton, built in the 1950s by the London County Council and planned as a modern Utopia (Ceelax) (s) (833899)

9.00 Clash of the Titans: Phoenix from the Ashes. Flashback to 1961 when Ian Botham, almost single-handedly, defeated Australia in the Third Test of the Ashes series (Ceelax) (252163)

9.45 The X Files: Beyond the Sea. Upset by a death in the family, Scully becomes entangled in the cruel machinations of a serial killer on the loose and a murderer on death row. This time it is Mulder who is sceptical. With David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson (i) (Ceelax) (s) (234328)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceelax) (542279)

11.15 Cricket: Highlights of the final day's play from Lord's (127144) Followed by Weatherwise

12.00 The Midnight Hour (s) (565854)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

Watchdog Value for Money

BBC1, 7.30pm

The Watchdog spin-offs continue, but consumer news make such round viewing that few will complain. First it was health and now, after a two-week break for European football, comes a series on best buys in the shops. This can mean anything from ice-cream and pizzas to haircuts and disposable barbies, truly an eclectic mix. Presented by Vanessa Feliz, journalist, television personality and, she says, keen shopper, each programme includes reports from the high street, shopping news and consumer tests. In tonight's programme Feliz tries to discover why as many as 70 per cent of women are wearing the wrong size of bra and the most popular Let Loose goes in search of year for its new video. And a Watchdog regular, Chris Choi, joins the paparazzi at high profile press events to try the latest throwaway cameras.

In the Blood: The End of Evolution

BBC2, 8.00pm

Professor Steve Jones concludes his course in popular genetics with the apparently provocative statement that human evolution may be over. But Jones is not normally given to provocative statements and what he means is that evolution by natural selection may be at an end. Deaths in infancy are now rare (he is talking about the Western world) and children survive to pass on their genes. The trouble is that they also pass on genetic diseases, though Jones is optimistic about the chances of dealing with them. His message, derived from trips to Bradford and Finland, is to find a partner as far away from you as possible. So ends an accessible series which may not have come up with startling revelations but has injected sense into contentious debates and has never pretended that genetics has all the answers.

Foreign Legion: The Recruit

Channel 4, 9.00pm

The French Foreign Legion may be the stuff of romantic adventure stories but it can hardly look that way to its new recruits. This documentary features 22-year-old Scot, Dean Heggie, formerly of the Royal Marines and looking for a new challenge. Reporting to the Legion's headquarters, near Marseilles, Heggie has his head shaved and undergoes a two-hour interrogation. Murderers and armed robbers, he discovers, need not apply. The basic training is enough to test the toughest resolve. Physical fitness is as important as having immaculate boots. Lack of either is ruthlessly punished. A long way from home, history-cryed through lack of sleep and not speaking much French, Heggie begins to wonder whether he has made the right move.

Clash of the Titans: The Phoenix from the Ashes

BBC2, 9.00pm

The 1981 Test series, during which Ian Botham seemed to beat the Australians almost single-handedly, dominated Australian in the Third Test of the Ashes series (Ceelax) (252163)

9.45 The X Files: Beyond the Sea. Upset by a death in the family, Scully becomes entangled in the cruel machinations of a serial killer on the loose and a murderer on death row. This time it is Mulder who is sceptical. With David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson (i) (Ceelax) (s) (234328)

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12.00 The Midnight Hour (s) (565854)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

6.00am GMTV (7585637)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (1748231)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (2520618)

10.00 The Time... The Place (s) (9479298)

10.35 This Morning (77790057)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (7911786)

12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (4610095)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (4891768) 1.25 Coronation Street (i) (Teletext) (7183453) 2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (5876212) 2.25 Desperate Housewives (Teletext) (49218304) 2.50 Garden Calendar (Teletext) (8922453)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (4346521)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (4345882)

3.30 Caribou Kitchen (s) (662637) 3.40 Tots TV (i) (s) (3080078) 3.50 Old Bear Stories (i) (s) (3078863) 4.00 Scooby Doo (i) (s) (7584863) 4.25 Tiny Toon Adventures (i) (Teletext) (s) (1192989) 4.50 The Big Bang (Teletext) (s) (6140163)

5.10 The List (3718637)

5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (987873)

6.00 Home and Away (i) (Teletext) (s) (467095)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (551908)

6.50 Let's Go (931415)

7.00 Tonight with Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. With the four students who were held captive for 129 days by Indonesian terrorists (3231)

7.30 Coronation Street. Tary is pushing his luck with Rachel (Teletext) (811)

8.00 World in Action. Hard-hitting investigations (Teletext) (s) (9279)

8.30 Take Your Pick hosted by Des O'Connor (Teletext) (8786)

9.00 An Independent Man. Freddie tackles Palmerston's traffic chaos. With George Cole and Mel Martin (Teletext) (s) (2845)

10.00 News and weather (Teletext) (68279)

10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (750811)

10.40 Music Writers on TV. A profile of Andy Davis the former member of Skidaddle and Corgis (i) (575250)

11.10 Heroes. Ex-spacer of the House of Commons, Lord Tonypancy takes to anti-nuclear campaigner and social reformer Rev Lord Donald Soper (117182)

11.40 Good Advice (i) (713540)

12.10 Bushell on the Box (s) (4772274)

12.40am The Big Match: Replayed (8271309) 1.25 Hotel Babylon (i) (s) (4589496) 2.05 Shift (i) (3200090) 3.05 Best of British Motor Sport (2287377) 3.35 Coach (i) (s) (1554155) 4.05 Jones and Jerry (i) (10645458) 4.20 Cool Vibes (10596598) 4.30 The Time... The Place (i) (s) (80125) 5.00 An Invitation to Remember (i) (52800)

5.30 Morning News (50309)

6.00am Super Dave (i) (9160502)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (98095)

9.00 FILM: Four Daughters (1938, b/w) with Joan Crawford. Drama directed by Michael Curtiz (7852528)

10.40 FILM: Curly Top (1935, b/w). Shirley Temple musical directed by Irving Cummings (5530434)

12.00 The Way We Were (i) (Teletext) (s) (58892)

12.30pm Sesame Street (i) (77618) 1.30 Womans (3227322) 1.55 The Cyclist (3952290) 2.05 Australia Wild (5650878)

2.35 FILM: To Paris with Love (1954, b/w) with Alec Guinness, Vernon Gray and Odile Versois. Romantic comedy about a middle-aged widower who takes his undergraduate son to Paris, planning an amorous adventure for him. Directed by Robert Hamner (Teletext) (5045095)

4.00 Backstage (Teletext) (s) (540)

4.30 Film to One (Teletext) (s) (724) 5.00 The Model Williams Show (Teletext) (s) (736540) 5.50 Tellytoons (172415)

6.00 The Cosby Show (i) (Teletext) (989)

6.30 Hollyoaks. Maddy and Michael have a romantic breakfast date ruined by an attack of "road rage" (569)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (187569)

7.55 The Slot (597106)

8.00 For Richer or Poorer. A Cutting Edge documentary examining the ritual of matrimony through the eyes of three disparate couples (i) (Teletext) (s) (8873)

10.40 Sport in Question (735892)

11.40 Tour of Duty (585144)

2.05am Customs Classified (1858767)

2.45 Jones and Jerry (900729)

3.10 Film: Georgy Girl (6742212)

4.00 Johnnie (1210816)

5.20 Asian Eye (8206019)

As HTV West except:

12.55pm Coronation Street (4891786)

1.25 Home and Away (58543078)

1.55 Shortland Street (50877801)

2.25 Blue Heelers (8090250)

3.15-3.20 Breakaways (4369008)

5.10 Home and Away (3718637)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes — the Listings (179328)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (347)

6.30-7.00 Summer Getaways (927)

10.40 The Pier (574927)

11.05 The Listings (263960)

11.10 Max Monroe: Loose Cannon (337434)

5.00am Freescreen (52800)

Starts: 6.40 Super Dave (i) (9160502) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (98095) 9.00 Film: Four Daughters (1938, b/w) with Joan Crawford. Drama directed by Michael Curtiz (7852528) 10.40 Film: Curly Top (1935, b/w). Shirley Temple musical directed by Irving Cummings (5530434) 12.00 The Way We Were (i) (Teletext) (s) (58892) 12.30 Alfred J. Kwak (86163) 1.00 Slot Machine (91182) 1.30 Film: Call Northside 97 (1948) 2.00 Cinema Chronicle (705) 4.00 Backstage (540) 4.30 Garden Party (724) 5.00 5 Pump (2232379) 5.15 5 Pump (2232379) 5.30 Fifteen to One (796) 6.00 Newsnight (823637) 6.15 Home (67818) 7.00 Posh 'n' Tash (745705) 7.25 Byd Ar Badwar (195750) 8.00 Cyn Cefn Gwlad (82325) 8.30 Newsnight (6328) 9.00 Foreign Legion (8637) 10.00 Cinefile (8526637) 11.05 Roseanne (116453) 11.35 NYPD Blue (67809) 12.30am Brett Butler (2304767)

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'Plastic'
traveller's
cheques

Travellers will be able to replace traveller's cheques with a pre-paid plastic card if the pilot launch of Royal Bank of Scotland's Visa TravelMoney card, starting today in Edinburgh and Manchester, is successful.

The electronic card is "loaded" with up to £5,000 sterling and can then be used with a PIN number to extract cash in foreign currencies from automatic hole-in-the-wall telling machines abroad.

Once exhausted, the card can be thrown away. The card aims to give instant cash with greater security and avoid travellers carrying a lot of foreign currency.

Wage support

Many employers support a national minimum wage but want it to reflect regional differences in pay, according to a new survey by Reed Personnel Services, the recruitment group, published today. Half of the 250 organisations surveyed said Labour's plan for a statutory minimum rate was a good idea, with only 20 per cent against, although there was more opposition from retailers. A majority of those questioned said they favoured a regionalised rate.

Minimal issue, page 46

Appeal date

Up to 60,000 part-time health, bank and shop workers who are claiming more than £95 million in back-dated occupational pensions will discover today whether their court appeal has been successful. The Employment Appeal Tribunal will deliver a ruling on their claims for rights to pensions stretching back in some cases to the 1970s. The TUC, which is co-ordinating the claims, has been pressing to get the two-year limit on back-dated compensation lifted and wants the case referred to the European Court of Justice. Britain has more part-time workers than the European Union average.



Accountants from Ernst & Young proved among the most willing gluttons for punishment at the first 24 Peaks Challenge in the Lake District yesterday. The Challenge, sponsored by merchant bank ING Barings to raise money for the charity Feed the Children, included four teams from the Big Six accountancy from among 25, including many bankers, who took on the challenge of walking 31 miles to climb 24 peaks in 24 hours

LucasVarity defends
'golden parachutes'

By JASON NISSE

VICTOR RICE, chief executive of LucasVarity, will be entitled to severance pay of more than £5 million if he is dismissed at any time in the five years after the £3.2 billion merger of Lucas Industries, the engineer, and Varity, the US group.

The golden parachute is equal to 4.4 times his annual salary of £600,000 plus the highest bonus he was paid in the previous three years, which currently is the £538,000 he received in 1994.

British-born Mr Rice was given this contract by Varity, which is based in the US where such contracts are not

unusual. But LucasVarity will be a UK company and the terms far exceed the guidelines set down by the Greenbury committee on executive pay in the UK, which says that service contracts should be of no more than two years and preferably should be only one.

Three other directors of Varity are also entitled to massive payments if they are dismissed within five years of the merger. They are Neil Arnold, Anthony Gilroy and Howard Chandler.

They would receive 3.35 times their total salary and bonus. The payoffs for these

three could reach £372 million. Not one of them is due to sit on the board of the newly merged company after the deal goes through, as it is expected to do later this summer.

Other senior executives are entitled to payoffs equal to many multiples of their salary if dismissed in the two years after the LucasVarity merger.

Varity would not elaborate on how many executives this covered or what the liability to the company would be in this case.

"You have to understand that executive pay is of a different order of magnitude

in the US," said Kirsten Biehary, Varity's head of corporate affairs.

The terms of these golden parachutes are disclosed in a provisional prospectus which has been filed with the US Securities & Exchange Commission in Washington. The document is not meant for distribution in the UK.

The potential payments stem from a change of control clause which is triggered by the merger of Lucas and Varity, even though the deal is a friendly one largely promoted by Mr Rice.

The payments are specified in a chapter entitled "Interest

of certain persons in the Reorganization" (sic) where it says: "Varity stockholders should be aware that certain officers or directors of Varity... have interests... that are different from or in addition to the interests of Varity stockholders generally."

Senior fund managers said that they would be raising the issue of golden parachutes with LucasVarity at meetings once the formal merger documents are out in the UK, which is not expected until next month.

Mike Beard, director of communications at Lucas, defended the golden parachutes. "These concern a previous contractual arrangement. The Greenbury guidelines have little to do with US companies and these people have to work out their existing contracts."

Incentive schemes under fire

By MARTIN WALLER

PENSIONS Investment Research Consultants (Pirc), the pension fund consultancy that has led the backlash on corporate governance this year, will tomorrow launch a new attack on executive incentive schemes.

Research being prepared by Pirc suggests that every scheme so far voted through by shareholders is contrary to the Greenbury guidelines on directors' remuneration.

Pirc will chair a breakfast briefing, to be attended by representatives of 60 of Britain's top companies, that will attempt to lay down guidelines on what schemes should be adopted and what objections companies can expect from their shareholders.

The annual meeting season

for privatised utilities is approaching, and sharp criticism of several proposed schemes, offering windfall bonuses to directors, is expected. The Pirc research is likely to provide further ammunition for the critics.

Pirc has already campaigned heavily against a number of executive bonus schemes, including those proposed by the Prudential Corporation and at HSBC Holdings, parent of the Midland Bank. So far, all have been voted through by shareholders, but opposition has been unexpectedly heavy.

At the HSBC annual meeting at the end of May almost a fifth of shareholders voted with Pirc and against the board proposals, which the

consultant calculated would pay six directors a maximum of £16 million between them.

Anne Simpson, joint managing director of Pirc, said the consultant had identified executive incentive schemes, particularly those that offer rewards to directors that far outweigh benefits to shareholders, as the next topic of debate in the City.

This view is bolstered by Pirc's research, which is believed to show that since the Greenbury guidelines were drawn up, not one of the 31 schemes put to shareholders for a vote would pass muster under the guidelines. In addition, numerous other generous executive incentives have been put in place without requiring the blessing of shareholders.

UK gives boost to German

By CLARE STEWART

A GERMAN technologist who was unable to find backing for his ideas in Germany is set to become a multimillionaire when he floats his UK-based business on AIM next month. Klaus Bollmann and his wife, Hanne, who is co-founder and finance director of Network Technology, will hold a stake worth £21 million when it comes to AIM. The company is joining via a placing valued at about £35 million.

Set up in 1984, the company in Burgess Hill, Sussex, has established its core market supplying hardware and software connecting computers to networks, the Internet, printers and other office equipment.

Network Technology supplies more than 15 of the world's largest equipment manufacturers, including NEC, Ricoh, Epson and Xerox, claiming a 40 per cent world market share for its printer products.

Mr Bollmann, 40, first began experimenting with technology as a teenager. At 13 he repaired his first colour television, and at 14 he built his first computer. "I



Klaus and Hanne Bollmann: stake worth £21 million

wrote to IBM and asked them for any old computer gear. They gave me the bits and I was able to put it together," he said.

In the early days of office computers, Mr Bollmann spotted the need for low cost printers. He said: "The office world then was ruled by typists and there was opposition to computers. I developed a device that could be added to typewriters to effectively convert them into word processors." Although the idea was used initially by typewriter group Triumph Adler in Germany,

the company was not interested in developing the technology further. Mr Bollmann eventually found backing from a UK business, OEM.

In 1984 Mr Bollmann set up on his own. For the year to March 1996, Network Technology is forecasting profits of not less than £3.3 million on turnover of £16 million. Mr Bollmann and his wife are not selling any shares when the company floats. The £4 million that they raise will fund expansion.

AIM roundup, page 44

Valuation range
adds to Energy
sale confusion

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BRITISH ENERGY, the company owning the eight newest nuclear reactors, will on Wednesday be valued well below initial forecasts in a band of estimates so wide that it emphasises City confusion over the last big privatisation.

The nuclear stations, expected to get a price tag within a range of £1.3 billion to £1.9 billion, will also be hampered by a rewritten prospectus referring to warnings from Labour that it could rescind nuclear's privileged status in the generation market.

A statement last week by John Battie, Shadow Energy Minister, that a Labour government could axe British Energy's preferred status in the electricity market — which means its output is guaranteed — is the only fundamental change to the full prospectus from the pathfinder document. If executed, the threat would have major implications for the cash generation of British Energy. Cash generation, along with a strong dividend policy, is one of the

key platforms on which British Energy is being marketed. Early estimates had priced the business at about £2 billion which in itself was a controversial figure, as it fell short of the £2.9 billion spent to build Sizewell B, the newest reactor. The wide range of valuations that the Government is now considering goes beyond the usual City posturing on privatisations. It highlights the difficulty of gauging future prices of electricity at British Energy.

Today is the last day for private registrations will share shops, through which individuals can buy at extra discounts. So far more than a million people have registered although the take-up is expected to be about a quarter of a million which private investors taking about 30 per cent of the issue. The general discount for retail investors is expected to be about 5 per cent.

British Energy executives will be in the United States this week talking to American investment institutions.

Sainsbury's card
attracts millions

By CAROLINE MERRELL

MORE than two and a half million people have registered for Sainsbury's new loyalty card in its first week.

The supermarket chain claims that more than 420,000 people a day have been signing up for the Reward Card, which offers Air Miles or a discount on purchases.

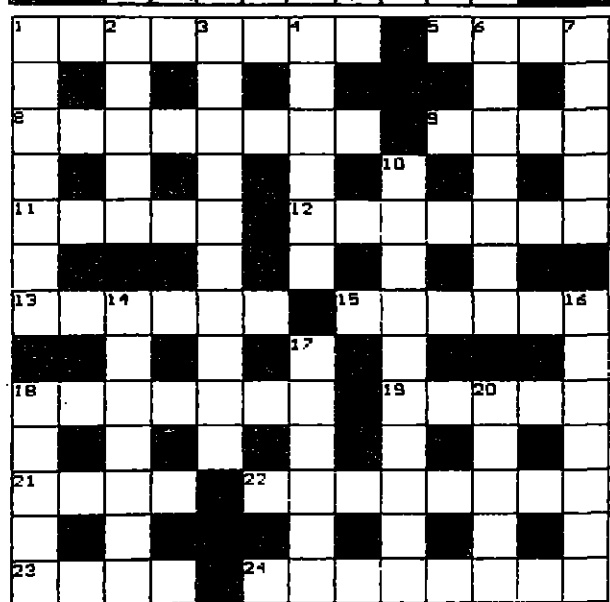
The move is a climbdown for the group, which last year dismissed loyalty cards as "electronic Green Shield stamps". A spokeswoman said yesterday that the sign-ups had been maintained on Saturday, despite the Euro 96 factor. She said: "We had a very large number of people who came shopping in the morning which helped to balance the afternoon which was far quieter as people went home to watch the football."

The 2.5 million figure included Saturday, but not Sunday figures. More than a million people shop at Sainsbury stores on Sunday, and the group anticipates that

eventually more than seven million of its nine million customers will take the card. Its launch is another sign of the war currently being fought between high street supermarkets. Last month, Sainsbury reported a £100m fall in profits.

The company's first profit fall in 22 years was put down to increasing competition with Tesco, which also launched a loyalty card last week. Tesco's Club Card Plus will pay savers 5 per cent interest and offer discounts related to the amount of money spent with the store. About 6.5 million Tesco customers already use its Club Card loyalty scheme, which provides the discounts without the additional banking facilities.

Sainsbury's card will give one point for £1 spent beyond £3. Two hundred and fifty points will give the customer 40 air miles. A return trip to Paris will cost around 3,000 Air Miles.

TIMES TWO
CROSSWORD

No 816

ACROSS

- 1 Flattering cajolery (4-4)
- 5 Lament (4)
- 8 Cosmetic item (8)
- 9 Level; having lost fizz (4)
- 11 Ship; eye cosmetic (5)
- 12 Bringing in no money (7)
- 13 Obscenely humorous (6)
- 15 Lacking experience (6)
- 16 Round building (7)
- 19 Breadmaker (5)
- 21 Forrest — successful dumb boy (4)
- 22 Soaked up (8)
- 23 Mistaken (4)
- 24 Hard, dull work (8)

DOWN

- 1 Colonist (7)
- 2 Pretend, invent (5)
- 3 Assert forcefully (5,5)
- 4 Accursed house (*Gr. myth*) (9)
- 6 Unlawful (7)
- 7 Took out; old-fashioned (5)
- 10 Strain to the utmost (5,5)
- 14 Early (*archaic*) (7)
- 16 Sophisticated; non-spiritual (7)
- 17 Curve in road surface (6)
- 18 Brightest star of Orion (5)
- 20 Ck. Movement inspired; Ck. College (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 815

- ACROSS: 1 Dowel 7 Obverse 8 Lunette 9 Twinkle 11 Thrift 13 Faulkless 15 Sacred cow 19 Narrow 21 Ski jump 23 Uplifted 24 Version 25 Teash
- DOWN: 1 Delft 2 Wintry 3 Let off 4 Foot 5 Vernal 6 Useless 10 Walton 12 Tandem 14 Hackney 16 Rejoin 17 Way-out 18 Cruise 20 Winch 22 Punt

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Tomb of Mayan king gives up its treasures

AN EXPEDITION led by a British archaeologist has found the remains of a bejewelled Mayan king, thought to have ruled around AD 450.

Professor Norman Hammond of Boston University, co-director of the excavation at La Milpa in northern Belize and archaeology correspondent of *The Times*, said: "Mayan royal burials are fairly rare, and it is increasingly rare to find a site that has not been looted... when we realised that the chamber was undisturbed, it became very exciting."

The skeleton was found lying on its back about 10ft underground in a rock-cut burial chamber the size of a Volkswagen Beetle. The tomb probably escaped looting because unlike tombs of other Mayan kings, it had no marker indicating who was buried there or when, although evidence in the tomb suggests that it may have been a king known as Bird Jaguar who lived around AD 450 or his successor.

Professor Hammond said La Milpa was experiencing its first decline when the king died. "The people probably did not have the resources or desire left to commemorate him with a temple — or

□ The discovery of a spectacular jade necklace by a team led by Professor Norman Hammond, the Archaeology Correspondent of *The Times*, is as exciting as it is rare. He describes the burial chamber find to Leyla Linton

even a marker." However, the royal regalia with the skeleton include a spectacular necklace made from the apple-green jade of the Motagua valley in Guatemala, as well as jade mosaic earrings, and ear spools placed by the feet, made of black glassy obsidian.

A jade pendant attached to the necklace shows the head of a vulture, an icon which signified lord or ruler to the ancient Maya, Professor Hammond said. "It is a superb, unique piece of jade carving and a prime example of Maya lapidary art. This king wore his status on his chest," he said, announcing the find at a British Museum conference on the Maya yesterday. A jade bead the size of a cherry resting in the king's mouth, was probably placed there to receive the spirit.

Sara Donaghey, lecturer at Sheffield

College, who excavated the skeleton, said: "Seeing the jade gradually coming to light was really exciting. That is something I have not experienced before. The find is the stuff that archaeology is made of." Ms Donaghey said she had to bend herself like a banana in order to crawl into the black space. "It was painstaking work. I was one of the few people who could put myself in this awkward position. The skeleton was so fragile I used tools borrowed from my dentist to excavate it."

The front part of the skull had been smashed by rock falling from the roof of the tomb. The skeleton shows that the king in the chamber would have been between 5ft 2in and 5ft 4in tall. His teeth had been missing for some time before his death, possibly due to disease or bad eating habits. His neck vertebrae show signs of trauma at an earlier stage in his life, according to Frank and Julie Saul from Toledo, Ohio, experts in ancient bones who examined the skeleton in Belize as it was found.

La Milpa is about 70 miles northeast of the great Mayan city of Tikal in Guatemala. It was an important city for about a century. According to Dr Gair Tourtellot of Boston University, who is co-director of the project, La Milpa's population probably exceeded 50,000 at its peak between AD 750 and 850. The Maya built La Milpa around a great plaza which had two courts for the sacred rubber-ball game and was surrounded by four temple pyramids rising as high as 80ft.

The site was discovered in 1938 by Eric Thompson, but was not excavated until Professor Hammond's work began in 1992. Digging has been funded by the National Geographic Society, Boston University and this year by Raymond and Beverly Sackler of New York.

Archaeology report, page 22



Hammond: rare to find royal tomb that has not been looted



A Maya models the king's jade necklace with its vulture pendant



Skeleton of the bejewelled Mayan king, thought to be Bird Jaguar. His tomb was carved from solid rock beneath the plaza of the city of La Milpa in AD 450

OJ charity dinner raises storm

By TOM RHODES

HE HAS already protested his innocence to every network in America, made a public show of playing golf in Florida and spoken at the Oxford Union. But the reinvention of O.J. Simpson faces its sternest test this week when the former American football star hosts a formal fundraising event at his estate in Los Angeles for opponents of wife-battering.

Mr Simpson, who pleaded guilty in 1989 to beating his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and amid controversy was acquitted of her murder last year, has been largely shunned by the Hollywood establishment in recent months.

More than 500 celebrities and assorted members of the Los Angeles glitterati, however, are expected to pay up to \$10,000 (£6,450) to attend a dinner and auction on Thursday at the Brentwood mansion where Mr Simpson was arrested after the killing of his wife.

Although the offer has been welcomed by the Stop the Violence / Increase the Peace foundation, the charity involved, it has brought demands of a boycott from relations and friends of the dead woman.

"Any organisation dedicated to stopping violence ought not to use Mr Simpson or allow Mr Simpson to use them in connection with their campaign," Gloria Allred, a lawyer representing Mrs Simpson's family said.

Indians take on cavalry again at Little Bighorn

FROM TOM RHODES IN NEW YORK

FOR more than a century America has been fascinated by George Custer, the young hero of the Civil War, the Indian fighter in the West and the man who apparently disobeyed orders and led his 250 cavalrymen to crushing defeat at Little Bighorn.

The last stand of June 25, 1876, has been considered a cornerstone in the history of relations between Whites and Indians, an icon to doomed American courage and a bitter-sweet victory for the tribes who were to lose their traditional nomadic lifestyle within a matter of years.

The 120th anniversary of the battle, which will be re-enacted at its site in Montana tomorrow, threatens to reignite controversy at the Little Bighorn and has once more pitted the Seventh Cavalry against the Cheyenne and Sioux, Arapaho, Lakota, Arizika and Crow. Gerard

Baker, the Indian superintendent of the battlefield monument, claims it honours Custer and his men but fails to commemorate the victims, including the 50 Indians who died in battle.

"This represents the end of the way of life for the Indian people," said Mr Baker, who is preparing designs for another shrine to be built on Last Stand Hill. "When Indian people come here they cry and they get mad for the loss of that way of life and that freedom."

More than the prospect of a new monument, however, the anniversary itself is at the heart of the new conflict after Mr Baker organised what he called a "day for the tribes". Prayers at the monument and a buffalo feast will be preceded by an attack-at-dawn ceremony in which Indians will ride horses to the boundary of the monument, head for a

mass grave where 200 soldiers are buried and "count coup" — an ancient tradition in which warriors proved their skill by striking the enemy with a stick.

The operation has angered those associated with the US Cavalry. A number of invitations to what Mr Baker has called the "wipe-away-tears ceremony" have been spurned. Major General Leon Laporte, who commands the First Cavalry Division at Fort Hood in Texas and is overall commander of the Seventh Cavalry, merely said his programme did not permit him to attend the event at the Crow Reservation.

Bob Wells, editor of the *Custer Little Bighorn Battlefield Advocate*, said Mr Baker had gone overboard. "What would people say if cavalry reenactors went to Wounded Knee and touched the monument with sabres?"

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Day One of a new series: Faith is more important today than it has been for many years

Looking for a reason to believe

The 'me' generation of the Eighties now senses that, morally, it has travelled too light. Today, many people are searching for a faith which will help to give a deeper meaning to their lives



Something is moving in the middle classes. A decade ago scenes of pin-striped ecstasy, with hands held aloft and a babble of indecipherable languages, would have called to mind a frantic morning on the trading floor or a late night at a club.

Now the same energy, abandoned even, is found in church. For many of Britain's bruised there has been a turning away from the material and towards the spiritual. The anxious classes are finding reassurance in Christianity, while others experiment with alternative creeds. The era of the Enlightenment, when religion was in retreat, is drawing to a close, and in its place we are witnessing a new willingness to experiment with aspects of the eternal — it is the dawning not so much of the Age of Aquarius, more the Age of the Curious.

The English are never at ease with open discussion of personal matters or spiritual speculation. But there is a sense that is changing, with the preparedness of figures such as the novelist Martin Harris and the broadcaster Melvyn Bragg to discuss their new engagement with Christianity.

Knowing that contemporaries are pursuing their own pilgrimages may have emboldened Bragg and others to speak for many more, silently seeking their own accommodation with the spiritual.

A resurgence in religious faith might be expected as the

2,000th anniversary of Christ's birth draws near. Anniversaries are naturally times for reflection on how to use what little time each of us has left. But the millennium has a special significance, enhanced by the pace of today's turbulent change.

The religious writer Damian Thomson, whose *The End of Time: Faith and Fear in the Shadow of the Millennium* is published this August,

argues: "The recent collapse of what one might term rival millennial visions, such as the capacity of Marxism or market liberalism to solve all our woes, has created a renewed appetite for religious solutions. People no longer trust the Enlightenment answers. They do not expect 'reason' to explain the deeper mysteries the millennium makes them think about."

The reaction against reason shows itself in any number of ways. Rising violent crime encourages a more animal view of man's real nature. The spread of BSE, the most terrifying of a succession of food scares, has contributed to an undermining of confidence in science. There has been a resurgence of national identity, expressed ethnically and not culturally, from the border counties of Ulster through an increasingly anti-immigrant Europe to Bosnia. It suggests a world grown weary of the appeal of intellect and institutions, and happier with blood and soil. With reason fugitive, individuals are turning to

faith as a civilising influence. These deeper forces lapping on our shores influence a society less sure of itself after the 1980s, when individual reason was enthroned. That decade saw the ascendancy of the "me" generation — benefiting from freer markets and deregulated morality. Now there is a perception that excessive trust in the mechanisms of economic production, and indeed of sexual reproduction, has produced an environment where industrial and personal relations have become barren.

Financial security has been ephemeral for many. At its loosest in the invocation of "community", people are trying to find a voice outside themselves to guide their lives. In politics, an electorate apparently disaffected with the limits of liberalism hear some-



As the millennium approaches, their parents' generation is searching for new meanings to life, but where will these adults of the 21st century turn for spiritual fulfilment?

thing of what they want in Tony Blair's explicitly moral language. And Mr Blair's own faith also encourages many to find that voice in God.

The path to faith is always intensely personal but, as with politics, attitudes can be influenced by the mood of a generation as much as by the promptings of conscience. There are distinct currents apparent in different ages.

Among teenagers and young adults religious feeling has most obviously found an expression in the loose bundle of beliefs that is New Age thought. New Age thinking is, ultimately, as chaotically mixed and under-nourishing as the broth bubbling on an open campfire at a Newbury protest site. It allows an antipathy to progress to exist side by side with an enjoyment of its fruits.

The same young woman who refuses to eat steroid-stuffed meat, because she wishes to preserve her own body's purity, will relax at a rave with drugs refined by chemists which wreak far more dramatic changes on her system than any burger.

by MICHAEL GOVE

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Out of the mouths of babes

ARE WE born with a sense of spirituality, or do we develop it? Researchers at Nottingham University approached this question by interviewing 50 children from Nottingham and Birmingham about their beliefs. The team found the children to be more sophisticated in their beliefs than many people might think; they also found a strong sense of taboo associated with spiritual matters.

The idea for the research came from Dr David Hay and the interviews were conducted by Rebecca Nye, a research fellow. Both are from the university's School of Education. "Spirituality has been debated a lot in education, and it has emerged as something quite separate from religion," Ms Nye says. "It

ORIGINS OF FAITH

might be a sense of awe in a science lesson, or during a walk in the park."

Ms Nye and Dr Hay were looking for ideas and thoughts which were not based on particular knowledge, such as a certain religion. They sought to avoid references to imaginary or magical worlds.

The children, an equal number of boys and girls, fell into two age groups — six to seven-year-olds, and ten to 11-year-olds. They came from state schools, and included some Muslims. The majority of the children did not attend church. "I asked about hobbies, pets and friendships, because we were also interest-

ed in what they said about worldly things," she explains. Children were not questioned about their family. Religion was avoided — unless it was brought up by the child. "They weren't across-the-board believers or non-believers. Some were quite mature atheists," she says. "One six-year-old pretended he was doing a chat show and told me: 'I'm going to talk to you about the meaning of life.' Embarrassment, or taboo, was a constant theme, she says. "The children felt they couldn't discuss it with their friends and family. It was odd because they had so much to say, and some got quite annoyed that I wasn't going to talk to them again."

ANJANA AHUJA

what I believe

TONY PARSONS



Is there life after death? There is life after death because the divine spark never dies. Do you believe in astrology? No, because I can't believe that everyone with my sign is going to have the same kind of day.

Do you believe in God? I certainly believe in God. Do you believe in ghosts? I wouldn't say that I believe in ghosts but I believe that everybody has a soul, an eternal spirit, a divine spark.

Do you think your sins will be punished? The wicked are punished — in this world and the next. The mosquito that gives Pol Pot malaria is the beginning of the punishment. I believe that a soul can suffer torment after the living shell has died.

Have you ever prayed? I pray all the time. I wouldn't bother God if I lost my dry-cleaning ticket, but I pray when I am desperate, and I always say a few quiet words of thanks later.

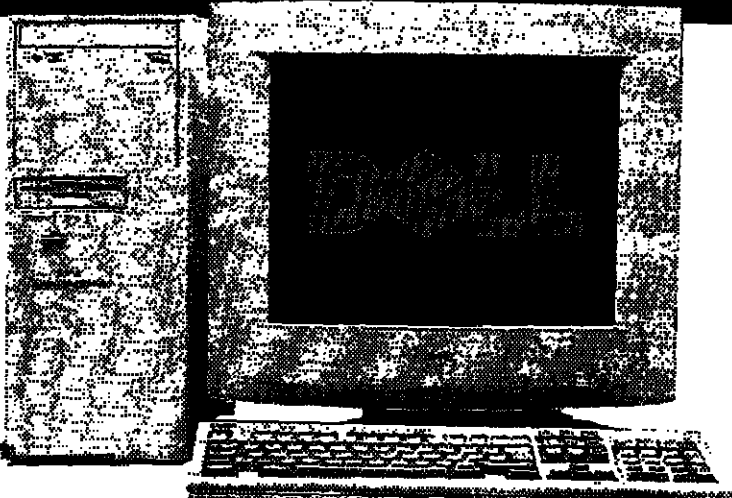
Does faith matter? My life would be unthinkable without it, but faith is not rational. You either believe or you don't.

Have you ever had a mystical experience? I have had an experience that I would describe as spiritual. After my father died, I went to see his body. I had the overwhelming sensation that his soul — the divine spark that made him who he was — had gone to some other place. I have never felt more certain about anything in my life.



Children interviewed were mature in their beliefs

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Why do we need to believe — and are we born with an innate sense of spirituality?

Has sex become a substitute for religion?

THE LUST FOR SENSATION

The rumour of God is not yet dead. Even if that name is no longer fashionable, the notion that there is some other world beyond the present continues to resurface in unexpected places.

Once, religion had an urgent role to play in ensuring civilisation's collective survival; but now that the increasing affluence of the Western world has knocked away the urgency of religion, so, I suggest, religion has largely developed into "spirituality": the individual quest for experience of some other world. And since these experiences of another world are by no means limited to the religious areas of life, spirituality is in turn being absorbed by secular culture.

Yet, as the great church historian Owen Chadwick suggests, when the human race has had an experience it finds to be authentic, it rarely lets it go. The memory of an other-worldly religion haunts the human imagination even amid the comforts of flat-earth

happily let our devils out to play and enjoy horrors on screen and stage.

Even so, the human body is still the great unknown, the great anti-intellectual mystery. Since sex is also where we are at our most embodied — sexual intercourse involves being taken over by the body, surrendering to its rhythms and urges — and since the body is the nightmare side of the rational psyche, in sex we play with the tiger that will finally consume us.

Sexual intercourse thus takes on all the power and fury of encountering the world of repressed fears. No wonder it is held to be religious.

But if sex is spirituality, then it must be able to satisfy the human need for hell as well as for ecstasy. And this is what we find. The language in which crimes such as child sexual abuse, rape, torture, sexual exploitation and murder are reported in the press draws on an armoury of medieval imagery. Time and again, editorials urge us to witness the transcendent horrors of humanity's diabolical inhumanity to itself in the name of sex.

Sex, of course, like any other religion, has its rituals which act to create or propagate the sacred space: the endlessly repeated liturgies of Hollywood and the formulaic litanies of Mills & Boon; the shamelessly recycled articles on "How to catch your man".

Even clergy are brought into the new religion: since they are the local experts on religion, they are unconsciously assumed also to be expert in the mystique of sex. How else to explain the disappointment when they fail, the prurient delight in exposing their sexual sins?

Most of this, of course, is nonsense, the fantasies with which an affluent generation likes to titillate itself. But perhaps there is a serious point to be made. If you consider that no eternal salvation is possible, then sex offers a way of transcending death.

Sex is so often associated with pleasure in the popular press that its links with reproduction are almost forgotten. And yet if, through sexual intercourse, you recover some ancient sacred space, there is a sense in which you are discovering meaning in a one-dimensional world, of which the final symbol is having children and thus peopling the empty universe.

CHARLES PICKSTONE
The author is vicar of St Laurence Church, Caiford, and art critic for the current affairs review, The Month. His book *For Fear of the Angels: How Sex Supplanted Religion* is published by Hodder & Stoughton in October.



Charles Pickstone

suburbia. There is always the hope of being surprised — that the outing to Loch Ness might just once reveal a monster.

Today, perhaps the most extraordinary of the remaining avenues to surprise is that sex. Sex is, I believe, the contemporary religion substitute *par excellence*. How else to explain the hyperbolic claims made for sex in magazines, non-fiction on television, on billboards or in brown envelopes from Amsterdam? Sex has supplanted religion in the imagination as our favourite way to the beyond.

But why? Two thousand five hundred years ago Socrates identified Eros as a daemon. If today the greater gods have packed their bags, we are at least left with those lesser beings, the daemons and half-gods. A glimpse of a chest or naked breasts still stirs our chthonic.

A second reason, following on from this, might be that our age is dominated by reason. So confident are we in our intellectual security that we



Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley in *Ab Fab* — said to be loosely based on Franks's life

Ab Fab days are over

A FOUR-YEAR ODYSSEY IN SEARCH OF TRUTH

I have travelled the world searching for something in which to believe. My spiritual journey has involved working with Californian New Age teachers; studying with Indian and Tibetan holy women and men; being healed by Native American shamans; trance dancing to African drums; visiting sacred Celtic sites; delving into my Jewish roots; studying the power of Kundalini energy and sacred tantric love-making; learning the power of silence; and going inward and celebrating the return of the Goddess through connection with Mother Earth.

I learnt more about humanity and God than I had in more formal religious settings. I found that spiritual truth wasn't only about internal healing and learning how to connect with the divine. It was about developing external values.

I realised that life was not about giving your power away to religious leaders, although one could acknowledge and learn from the great ones. It was about teaching, connecting to the divine through the beauty of nature and feeling unconditional love for our fellow human beings.

I was brought up in a conventional postwar Jewish family. My parents expected me to attend our progressive liberal synagogue. I went there for weekly Hebrew classes and services until I was confirmed at the age of 14.

I don't remember relating much to the vengeful, angry Jehovah we were taught about. I was more interested in the legends of the Old Testament. I wondered why all the great deeds were performed by men. Why was it always the wives who were weak?

It wasn't until I was in my early

thirties with two small children, a busy business and a tremendous amount of stress that I felt the need for a spiritual centre. I was as surprised as my family when, some 20 years later, I was praying in front of an altar for two hours a day in a language I couldn't understand.

I first heard about Nichiren Shoshu Buddhism, a popular Japanese practice, from friends in New York. They said if you chanted NAM — MYO — HO — RENG — KYO every day you could manifest whatever you wanted.

What I needed badly was inner peace. I started repeating it twice a day for about ten years, enjoying the support and meetings with Buddhists, as well as the benefits chanting brought.

Eventually, I started to question the value of taking such a narrow view on spirituality. I stopped my daily practice about the same time I sold my business, and split up with my husband after 20 years. I felt I was in freefall without a parachute.

So in June 1992, I started on a four-year adventure to search for the truth. I found that there are many self-acclaimed prophets and I realised that much discrimination needs to go into the selection of your spiritual path. Daily meditation and prayer will give you the internal space to absorb what is appropriate.

I'm currently practising Raj Yoga meditation with the Brahma Kamaris, an international spiritual organisation founded in India. Their pure lives and focus on service is what I aim for but I'm just taking it a day at a time. I've come a long way from the *Ab Fab* days, but I'm just a woman on her own journey to her truth.

● Lynne Franks's book on her journey to the 21st century will be out next spring.



by LYNNE FRANKS

what I believe

A.S. BYATT

Do you believe in God?
I have a religious temperament but I don't have any belief.
Do you believe in ghosts?
No.
Is there life after death?
The body dies but our genes live on. They just go on mutating endlessly.
Do you believe in astrology?
Astrology is a metaphor and any good writer will tell you that it is dangerous to believe metaphors.
Do you think your sins

will be punished?
I believe in cause and effect, but I don't think there is a deity passing judgment. Sin is culturally defined.
Have you ever prayed?
I was brought up as a Quaker and I do sometimes contemplate.
Does faith matter?
Yes, and I agree with Salman Rushdie that it is dangerous. Certain poems and paintings can fill me with a sense of wonder that is similar to people's religious experiences.

Explaining the ultimate enigmas

A JOURNALIST once put the question to me — if I went to Heaven, which great philosopher would I try to talk to first?

The first is Socrates. To me he represents reason. He posed the fundamental questions upon which philosophy is based. Who are we? Where do we come from?

The universe is such an amazing enigma; just wondering about it makes me feel alive. The fact that we cannot answer all the questions about the universe does not matter. Pondering on them is enough.

Unlike some scientists, I do believe that there is some kind

THE THREE GREAT GUIDES

of purpose and direction behind the evolution of the universe. I do not think that it has all been an accident.

The second person I would like to meet is Jesus. He was the most important moral philosopher of all. He taught

us compassion, forgiveness and how to get up and start again when we fall.

I am a member of the Lutheran State Church of Norway and I subscribe to the way Jesus taught us to live. However, I cannot say wheth-

er He is the son of God, or not, so I cannot believe in the Christian revelation.

Finally, I would like to meet Buddha. To me he stands for contemplation and oneness. I believe that we are all part of a larger whole. Many years ago my doctor asked me to take some tests and I was afraid that I might have a serious illness. I went for a long walk in the forest and was comforted by the thought that I was part of all the nature around me.

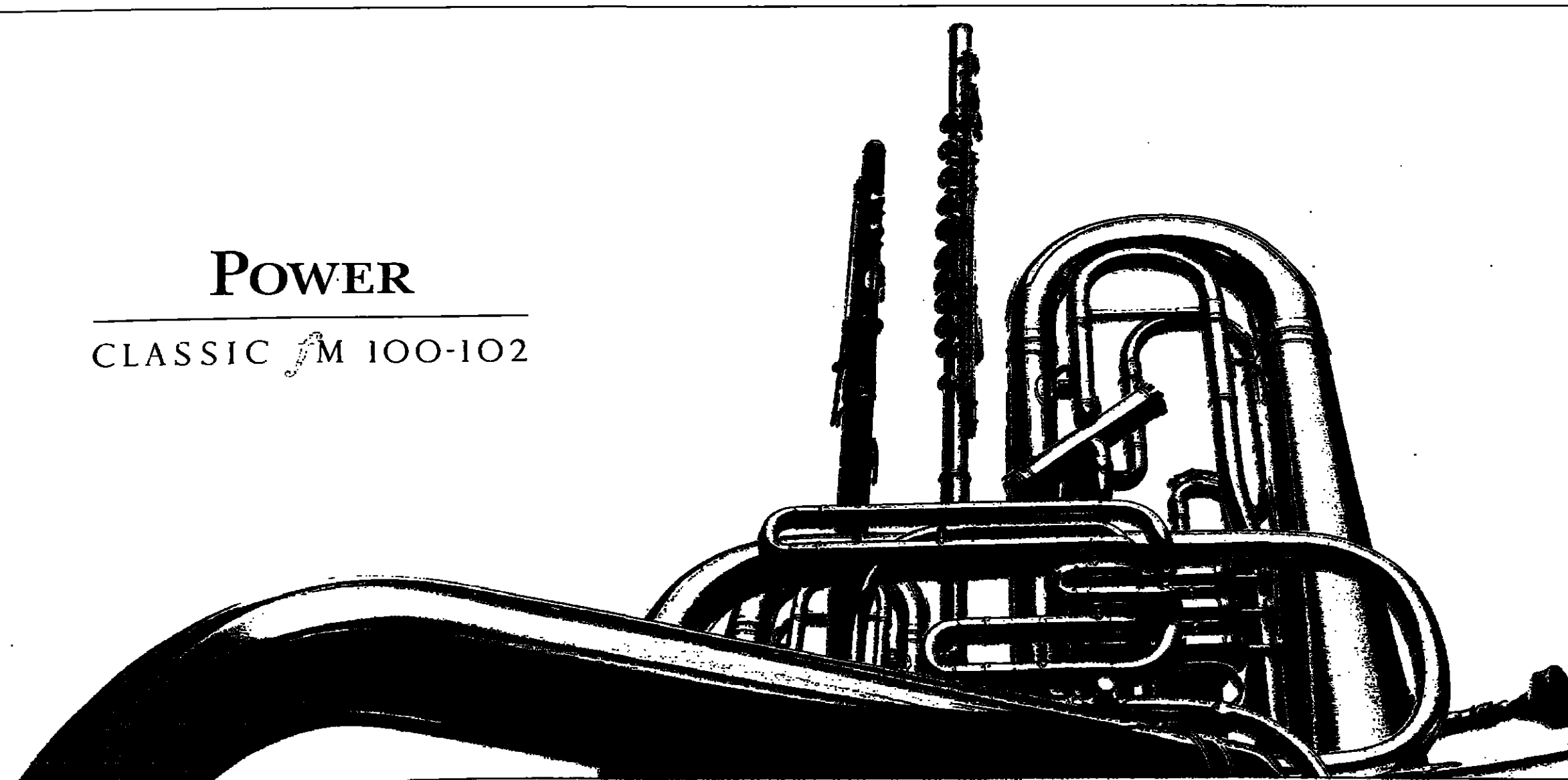
JOSTEIN GAARDER
● Jostein Gaarder's novel *The Solitaire Mystery* was published on June 17 by Phoenix House.

TOMORROW

Henry Dent-Brocklehurst on learning to live with guilt about money... and why Andrew Harvey has repudiated his former guru

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DEAL

The human role in climatic change

Heat of the debate

CHARGE and counter-charge are warring to and fro in the debate over global warming. This month the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a report concluding that the evidence "suggests a discernible human influence on global climate".

But the document has been attacked. First a group of environmental scientists, the European Science and Environment Forum, said that the IPCC had condoned oversimplified summaries of complex issues, and reached conclusions not justified by the evidence.

Then an industrial body, the Global Climate Coalition (GCC), accused the IPCC of allowing a key chapter to be re-edited. This is Chapter 8, which deals with the question of whether human activities are having an effect on the world climate.

John Shlasek, the executive director of the GCC, says that the revised version over-emphasises the human role in climate change. The changes, he says, raise questions over whether the IPCC has "compromised or even lost its scientific credibility".

"Dangerous and absurd," responds Dr Ben Santer, an atmospheric scientist from Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California, who redrafted the chapter. "Scurrilous," says Sir John Houghton, co-chairman of the IPCC's scientific working group.

Altering the chapter, he says, was perfectly within IPCC's rules, and many of the



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

changes were prompted by the GCC, which lobbied oil-producing countries to oppose the original chapter. "This was resisted by the IPCC and we have now ended up with a document that is scientifically much better," he told *Nature*.

Dr Roger Bate, the director of the Environment Unit at the Institute of Economic Affairs in London, says the IPCC reminds him of George Orwell's *1984*, where history was rewritten to conform to political whims. The clarifications, he says, have cleansed the report of any sense of uncertainty.

For example, the original version contains the sentence: "None of the studies cited above has shown clear evidence that we can attribute the observed changes to the specific cause of increases in greenhouse gases."

In the revised version, says Dr Bate, this is replaced by: "Implicit in these global mean results is a weak attribution statement — if the observed global mean changes over the last 30 to 50 years cannot be fully explained by natural climate variability some (unknown) fraction of the changes must be due to human influences."

Dr Santer says all the changes can be scientifically justified. But Dr Bate is unrepentant, arguing that the report will convince governments to cut the use of fossil fuels at 1997's Climate Change Convention. If so, he says, "this will be the most expensive policy decision ever made".

Sponge away a bad bone break

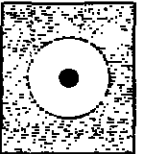


A SPONGE soaked with the genetic material DNA could be the answer to difficult bone breaks that refuse to mend, a team from the University of Michigan has reported. The researchers found that an open matrix made of the structural material collagen and impregnated with the genes that create bone protein caused rapid repair of broken bones in rats.

Most bones repair well, but there are times when large gaps have to be bridged. Bone-grafting can be used to fill the gaps but does not always work. The new method may provide an alternative, says Professor Jeffrey Bonadio, whose team reported the results in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

When the collagen sponges are placed in the gaps, cells start growing across them. They then apparently take up the DNA with which the sponges have been baited, and start making the proteins. He admitted he did not understand the process, but added: "If we can do this in bone tissues, we can do it in other wounds. It is difficult to sew a liver back together. Using the collagen matrix, it would depend only on the DNA used."

Why some cells self-destruct



THE trigger that leads cells to self-destruct has been discovered by scientists at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, Israel. The finding may help in understanding diseases believed to be caused by the process, such as juvenile diabetes and multiple sclerosis.

Cell suicide, or apoptosis, is a process vital to the shaping of organs. But in autoimmune diseases, where the immune system starts destroying its host, the process goes wrong. For some time it has been known that cells get the instruction to die through three receptor molecules on their surfaces.

The team, led by Professor David Wallach, has discovered that an enzyme turns this instruction into action. It is relayed from the receptor to proteins within the cell, which it then chops up, causing the cell to die.

"We were amazed to discover how little it takes to trigger cellular self-destruction," says Professor Wallach, whose team published their findings in the journal *Cell*. "It's as if cells always live on the brink of suicide."

The enzyme has been called MACH. The team believes its discovery may make it possible to block some diseases.

Norris McWhirter searches for the first place to witness sunrise on the millennium

Where will the first sunrise of the millennium take place? A true sunrise occurs the instant an observer sights the upper limb of the Sun breaking above an unobscured sea horizon.

Because we rarely see a true sunrise, however, we may instead look for the first apparent sunrise. This is defined as the observation of the Sun rising from behind any land mass that obscures the true sea horizon.

There are five general locations that vie for the honours as the place able to toast the earliest sunrise of the year 2000. These are: Antarctica; the Antipodes Islands; the Chatham Islands; Tonga; and Caroline Islands, Kiribati.

Since sunrise seems to be so well-defined, why should there be any doubt in establishing priority? The sunrise isochron (time) for January 1, 2000, immediately after midnight, lies just west of the International Dateline, at 179° 59'E, and has been computed as falling at a maximum latitude

The dawn of a new age

of just over 66°S at sea level. The calculation assumes that a sunrise must be preceded by a sunset. With the Antarctic cap rising almost two miles high in places, an observer would still have to be at sea level to see a sunrise.

It has been established, therefore, that no new year sunrise above a sea horizon can be observed from the Antarctic Adelie coast. Cape Ellsworth, the northern tip of Young Island, is about six-and-a-half nautical miles too far south to have a qualifying sunrise. The sunrise at Campbell Island is too late to be a contender.

You could try to catch the earliest millennium sunrise on terra firma in the uninhabited Antipodes Islands from the summit of the 366 metre-high Mount Galloway (49° 5'S, 178° 47.08'E) at 3:54am. New Zealand standard time, or 15:54 GMT. However, these islands are owned by the New Zealand Government and administered by its Department of Conservation (DoC).

While the DoC does occasionally make, flora and fauna monitoring visits, permission for attempts to land by tourists or millionaires, would not, one learns, even be considered. There is no aircraft landing strip and surrounding seas are rough — even rougher than the negligible prospect of clear summer visibility at dawn.

The earliest practical and populated location for greeting any new year dawn, however, is on New Zealand's Chatham Islands. This location is favoured by Japanese television companies, who descended there on December 31, 1989, to transmit satellite pictures of the dawn of the Nineties.

The Chatham Islands (44°S, 176°W) comprise four islands where the sunrise is more than half an hour earlier than even the summit of Mount Hikurangi.

near Gisborne, on the New Zealand mainland. The earliest sunrise in the Chathams falls on Pitt Island's easterly peak, Hakepa.

The earliest sunrises actually observed anywhere in the world, therefore, occur on or around Hakepa, North Head Farm, Pitt Island, which has a population of 55. The population of the Chathams as a whole is 750. Pitt Island actually has a grass airstrip, though it is limited to light commuter aircraft. It also has a wharf.

Meanwhile, travel companies and local authorities in Tonga are promoting the tropical Nukunono Atoll as the place. Even His Majesty King Tupou IV is involved. However, he cannot change the fact that the sunrise is 61 minutes behind Pitt Island and is therefore yesterday's news for the satellite television companies and those to whom time is everything.

Just when North Head Farm on Pitt Island, which is worked and owned by Ken and Eva Lanauze, seemed to be accepted as the prime accessible location for first toasting in the year 2000, word came of unexpected competition.

President Tito, the president and head of government of the independent Kiribati (pronounced Kiri-bass) announced to the world that he had singlehandedly rearranged the International Dateline running through his 16-year-old country of 36 islands.

This meant that the easternmost uninhabited Caroline Islands (9° 58'S, 157° 13'W) could hypothetically upstage all comers. Tonga and the Chathams included. These 20 islets, rising to a height of 20ft, have a combined area of less than 950 acres. Appropriately enough, the national flag of Kiribati features a rising sun.

The International Dateline was established by the International Meridian Conference of 1884. It passed and still passes at 180° longitude through Kiribati (formerly known as the Gilbert Islands). The chances of receiving international ratification of a new, and huge, eastward kink in the International Dateline is slim.

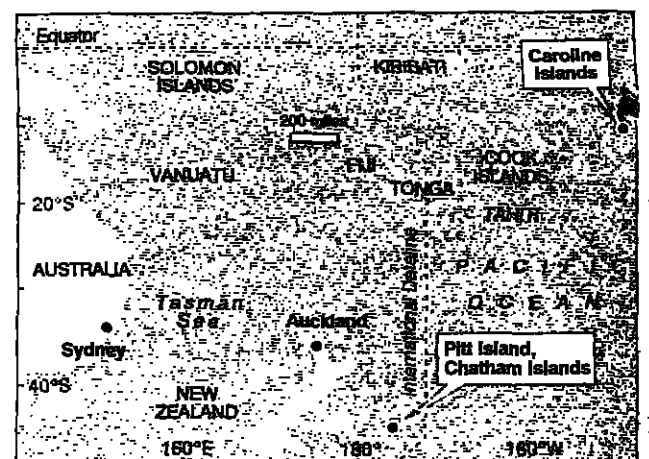
The groups promoting the waterless, unpopulated Caroline Islands as the first uninhabited place to see the sunrise

may find bureaucratic hurdles of higher magnitude than they bargained for.

Very high altitude appears to be the little-known plan of a group of balloonists, who believe that an extremely expensive high ascent over the South Pacific might outstage all the contending terrestrial sights.

For all the ingenuity, contortions and distortions, the solid fact remains that the earliest new millennium sunrise from a terrestrial, accessible and populated site will be North Head Farm on Pitt Island. Along with the rest of the Chathams, Ken and Eva Lanauze will be able to greet the millennial midnight in their unique time zone a full 45 minutes ahead of anyone else in the world.

● Norris McWhirter is the founding editor of the Guinness Book of Records (1954-89), and a director of The Millennium Adventure Company.



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Face to face with the lookalikes

Your face can be your fortune if you are a double for the famous — until your doppelgänger falls out of the headlines. Joseph Connolly looks into the strange world of the lookalikes

Did you know that John Major was born in Glasgow in 1947, the son of a bricklayer, left school at the age of 15 in order to join the Merchant Navy and then got a job on the shop floor of a Weaver to Weaver?

It must be true because before my very eyes across the table in the cosy gloom of Gerry's Club in Dean Street, Soho — one of the few places, apparently, where the Prime Minister feels comfortable and at ease — he is telling me so, pausing only to sip a glass of claret and puff on the first of a succession of fags.

The resemblance of Peter Friel, flooring consultant, to the rightful incumbent of 10 Downing Street, is really quite extraordinary, even close up. It is only when he speaks that the spell is broken, for instead of the flat and ponderous tones one expects there comes a light, quite clipped and undeniably Glaswegian accent.

Did he never consider classes to teach him to speak as dully as his illustrious doppelgänger? "That would really be too much — I'd talk like that forever, and then I'd go nuts." For here is the truth about the very same, witty and affable Mr Friel — unlike most lookalikes, he has never done anything at all to encourage or bolster his resemblance to Major.

The hair? Natural silver colour, always had it in that very same style. The heavy TV-screen glasses? Been wearing them forever. The invisible dark blue suits and striped ties? The clothes of choice. As to the very slightly pigeon-toed walk and the nearly indecipherable stoop of the shoulder: inherent. When did Friel first become aware of his accidental potential for a useful second income?

"It was in 1990, when John Major made his first television speech as Chancellor; it was quite a shock



Is it really him? Roy Hattersley meets the Prime Minister's lookalike Peter Friel. The look is completely natural, right down to the hair, spectacles and suit, Friel says

seeing myself on television. Others noticed it too, of course, so I got myself an agent through the *Yellow Pages*. I thought it might be a bit of fun; didn't expect it to last six years." (Maybe Major didn't either.)

How does it feel to be stared at by people who think you are someone else? "Initially it was very strange indeed — stranger still when really quite famous people were deferential to me. This happened even when I'd opened my mouth and blown my cover. A typical event for me would be a business gathering; I don't have to do anything, just stand around with a drink — not smoking, of course. It was an odd feeling — I wasn't me, but I wasn't Major either. Nowadays it just seems natural."

On the night of the last general election, Peter Friel was dining at Stringfellow's at the invitation of the eponymous owner (naturally enough) while each constituency result was flashed up on giant screens. He lost count of the number of people who came up and congratulated him: "You're doing a fine job, sir!" they cried.

I did not strike one of them as a little odd that the Prime Minister should be spending the evening alone with Peter Stringfellow in his nightclub on election night. Friel was his head in mute disbelief. "Some people I meet are so stupid it's a wonder they're allowed to vote at all." There are some things he will not do. "An American magazine of-

fered me \$25,000 for a photoshoot surrounded by beautiful naked women. I didn't do it — not just for the sake of Major's image: I myself didn't want to. At some events I attend there are topless Page 3 models — you have to make sure when the cameras go off that you are looking the other way, otherwise it would be embarrassing for both of us." And (the real John Major might take heart) he is propositioned a fair deal too. "I don't take them up on it," smiles Friel, "you don't know where they've been."

Friel was married for 17 years and has a grown-up son. Now he is single again, this and his flexible day work as a flooring contractor allowing him the freedom to take on Major jobs as and when they

come along. "They're sometimes very short notice — you can be measuring by day, and two hours later dining with Marilyn Monroe, Winston Churchill and Elvis, with opposite you the Queen is stuffing her face."

How does he get on with all the other lookalikes? "Some are very nice, many of them are crazy. There are three Queens — Jeanette Charles is the best, and a perfectly pleasant woman. But Elizabeth Richards — she behaves very imperiously indeed: thinks she's the Queen even when she's having a cup of tea. Once on a train to Manchester, people were looking at me and not her — she was, how can I put it, not pleased."

The expression on Friel's face suggests that she would not have

hesitated in decapitating the lot on the spot. "And Diana Ross gets very carried away — really believes she's a superstar: it's very sad. Michael Jackson is white and Irish with a terrible wig held on by an elastic band. Pauline Bailey does Marilyn — she's very nice."

There is only one other John Major lookalike now (many have fallen by the wayside). He more resembles the Prime Minister's brother Terry than anyone. "I've never met him — he has refused to appear with me. There's a Tony Blair, but I haven't met him either. "Some lookalikes become incredibly arrogant — the sad thing about the ones who take it to heart is that they are always the ones who look least like their characters. Sad, too, are the ones who are suddenly out



Imperious: Elizabeth Richards

of work because their character is a has-been. There's nothing doing for Max Bygraves, for instance.

"There's one 30-year-old I know who wears all the wigs, make-up and timewarp clothes of a once huge pop star. I won't say who. He walks around airports so that people will look at him. One of the Princess D's sleeps with absolutely anyone. Thatcher, of course, was dropped like a stone."

So what are Mr Friel's prospects? "I'm under no illusions. If Major fails in the next election, my phone stops ringing. But he won't — he'll be in with a majority of between 25 and 30." A spot of wishful thinking? "No," says Friel. "I was right last time — I said a majority of 22, and it was 21."

What is Friel's personal view of the great man? "I admire him a lot, although I've never met him — maybe for obvious reasons. Best Prime Minister since Macmillan. Thatcher was the worst thing that ever happened to this country." But Friel is a Tory, is he? He pauses. "I suppose I am now," he says.

Are there any downsides to this very singular job? "I worry about security a bit. Once I was alone in an airport in Northern Ireland and felt none too happy. I avoid pubs — there's always a fool who'll have a go." This is why he comes to Gerry's. "It's safe here," he says. "Safe. Some lookalikes complain about the fees, but I think they're fine — between £150 and £400 for hanging around doing nothing: it's not as if you need talent, or anything."

And what are the reactions to customers waiting to be measured up for a new career? The doorbell rings and there on the mat is the Prime Minister. Friel's eyes twinkle behind the famous spectacles in a very Majorian manner. "They're floored," he says.

THERE used to be something irredeemably vulgar about tattoos. Associated with sailors, bikers, convicts, roughnecks and neurotic outsiders, they gave the wearer a frisson of seediness and danger that smart society found altogether disagreeable.

When Sean Connery was chosen to play James Bond, the tattoo on his forearm, a symbol of his rough, urban Scottish adolescence, was dili-

Vulgarity is skin deep

gently disguised by cosmetic artists. In ancient Rome, slaves were branded with tattoos in much the same way Texan

that ranchers used to mark their cattle. This practice was to find an unhappy echo in the Nazi death camps. During the skinhead re-

al of the late 1970s, acquaintances of mine ruined their hands and arms with ineptly applied tattoos. One even had a large blue spider's web tattooed on his face — it was an act of sullen disillusionment.

Damien Hirst's sheep suspended in a tank of formaldehyde, the image of physical abuse and disintegration in the movie *Trainspotting*, the nihilistic fashion for body piercing and self-mutilation, the resurgence of interest in tattooing — all are part of an end-of-century obsession with the body.

Nowadays, though, so urgent is our quest for novelty and so eager are we to gesture at rebellion, that tattooing has acquired a modish respectability.

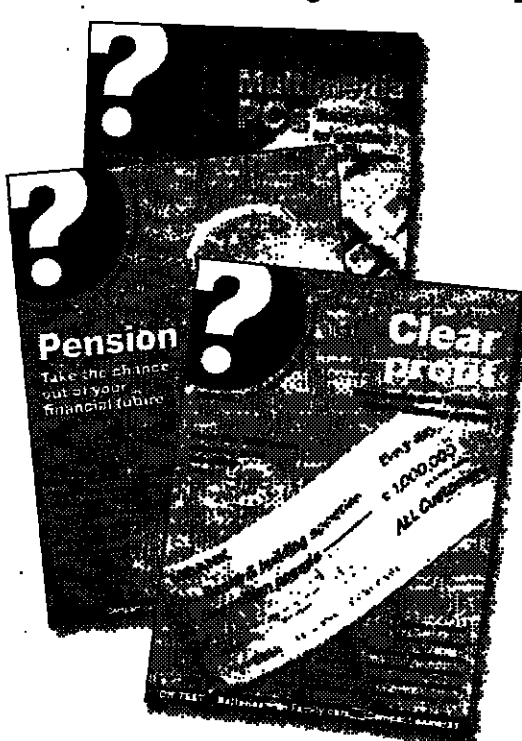
Jean Paul Gaultier's models are festooned in semi-permanent, washable tattoos. The actor Johnny Depp has the name of his lover engraved on his arm.

Divine Brown, the prostitute with whom the actor Hugh Grant enjoyed a few spare moments in a car on Sunset Boulevard, reportedly has a large tattoo on one of her buttocks. And Ivana Trump, Michael Jackson and Teresa Gorman have all experimented with having their eyebrows tattooed.

For Madonna, Julia Roberts, Ulrika Jonsson, Paula Yates, Zoe Heller, Beatrice Dalle and Pamela Anderson, to name but a few, the tattoo is simply a statement of high fashion. Tattoo parlours are to be found in some of London's most fashionable shopping areas — Kensington and Notting Hill, to name but two — making the acquisition of one every bit as easy as buying the latest midriff-baring hipsters.

The wearing of either, or both, signals simply the desire — and the wherewithal — to be an upmarket conformist. Poor Madonna, Ulrika, Paula and the rest of our meretricious gang. So much for radical chic. The sad truth is — tattoos today are merely irredeemably square.

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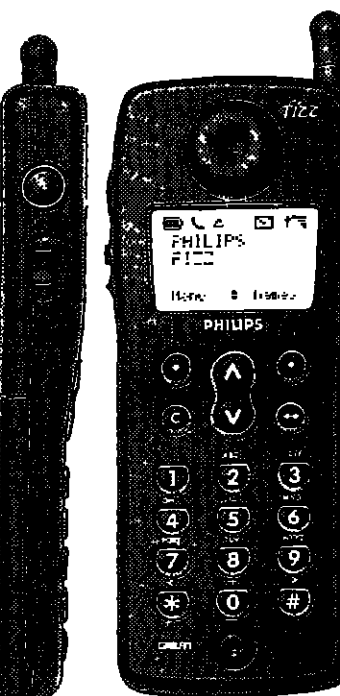
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Matthew Parris



Before we become completely irrational about child abuse, we should ask what it really involves

There has seemed in recent days a hint of McCarthyism in the air: something very faintly reminiscent of Salem, Massachusetts, in the time of the witch trials. Here is Bernard Levin writing 30 years ago, during the Profumo affair, on Britain's fevered interest in high-society decadence. Lord Denning had completed a report, investigating a snapshot which omitted a partygoer's head.

even in years so copiously provided with material on which madness could feel fat, there was one episode which stands out from the decades, and still stands out, as a monument to the willingness of man to suspend the operation of reason... how it came about, almost exactly two thirds of the way through the 20th century, and in a country as advanced as Britain, that a judge should have been obliged to ask a doctor to examine the penis of a politician, is something so extraordinary, and in many ways so significant, that it deserved examination as detailed as that which the Prime Minister underwent.

Am I wrong in detecting the whiff of Salem again, this time on another matter?

I was never abused as a child. At my boarding school and in the Boys' Brigade I had no brush with abuse. As an adult I have never been prey to any sexual interest in children. I am beginning to wonder whether I am abnormal. For a public mood seems to have arisen according to which this is an almost engulfing evil of our times.

Let me suggest reasons for unease. Language provides useful pointers to suspect reasoning, and whenever this subject is raised, even by way of a real-life case, one is struck by the swift, sharp retreat into the most unspecific term available — "abuse". Like "heresy", "un-American activities" or "dabbling in the occult", the term raises a dark and general presumption without actually telling us what happened. If it was abuse, well of course one is against it. But what? Was it consensual or forced, or something in between? Was it the pat of an arm, sitting a child on a knee, the stroke of a leg, the touching of a groin? Was it (what some now claim amounts to abuse) words alone?

Did it involve genital arousal, or even penetration? Penetration of what, by what, how? Which party led the other on? How much did the child mind, and what might the adult have thought the effect on the child to be? How old was the child? Five? Ten? Fifteen? It does seem to matter. Far from being questions of detail, subsequent to the central fact — "abuse" — such questions are surely primary. Those seeking to generate an uncritical sense of general

alarm may have an undeclared interest in cultivating the use of this term "abuse" and recasting into its mysterious unspecificity whenever challenged.

Sex, it seems to me, is sometimes placed by our age on some kind of a pedestal, to be viewed with feelings which are a weird kind of reverence, dread, disgust, guilt and desire. Previous ages did something similar to magic, the dark arts and the occult — and any MP will tell you that there are still people today for whom the very hint of black magic or Satanistic practices induces a blind terror and obsessive desire to "put a stop to it", whatever "it" is.

Once you have fenced round an area of human behaviour and pronounced everything within it special, awe-inspiring and strangely unspeakable, these feelings become self-reinforcing. One is relieved of the duty to offer matter-of-fact descriptions, and empowered to dismiss scepticism as a sort of heresy. Those "abused" are encouraged to ascribe whatever emotional problems they may have to the abuse, and bear witness, in some thing close to an evangelical sense, to the potency of this evil. Those who refuse to bear witness are described as too frightened or damaged to confront it, and their silence becomes witness in itself.

Meanwhile, thousands of good people who love and work with children are made to feel guilty or confused about their motives. These will be the tangle of impulses, some blameless, others suspect, that fuel any career.

I do not discount the claim that sexual activity between adults and children is more prevalent than we used to think. Living in rural England I suspect there is truth in that. But I also know that all kinds of other things are more prevalent than we think, and that human beings are remarkably resilient, quite secretive, not always damaged by experiences you would suppose damaging, and tend to survive.

And I think of all the dreadful ways in which we hurt children every day: by words, by indifference, by sarcasm, by brutal ignorance of their needs and talents, by breaking their wills and their self-confidence and, more than anything in Britain, by neglect: spending not nearly enough time with them. Sometimes I wonder whether we expiate our guilt over failure in the commonplaces of childcare by retreating into alarm at practices less common and more exotic.

I hope you do not think I am callous about child abuse. I am not just unsettled by something in the present public mood.

Our feelings about sex are a weird knot of reverence, disgust, guilt and desire

Sir George may not be loyal to John Major, but local Tories will have to back him

Time to cultivate our Gardiners

Before his election to Parliament, George Gardiner was for ten years the political correspondent of Thomson Regional Newspapers; in the mid 1960s I used to meet him in Thomson House, in Gray's Inn Road, where *The Sunday Times* was then printed. He had recently come down from Balliol College, Oxford, with a first in philosophy, politics and economics; he already had all the journalist's delight in the details of political manoeuvre.

How would one have described him in those days? He was a rather lanky true blue Tory, with his right-wing political principles bred in the bone. He was serious about his politics, whether as a journalist or later as a candidate. He was certainly intelligent, but not particularly creative. He had a shyness or awkwardness of manner; I was rather surprised to hear that he had been selected for Reigate, with its large Conservative majority. But of course other and more successful politicians of the time, notably Ted Heath and Enoch Powell, had a similar awkwardness. If George Gardiner lacked the common touch, he was in good company.

His right-wing views made him a natural Thatcherite from the start. He even wrote a short biography of her as early as 1975. He voted for her for the leadership; he supported her as Leader of the Opposition, and he supported her for 11 years as Prime Minister. For some reason, perhaps because the whips found him a little prickly, perhaps because he was too active a rightwinger in canvassing committee votes, he was never given office, but he became an increasingly influential backbencher, reaching the executive of the 1992 Committee in 1986. He did not go into the City or make money, and is still a comparatively poor man. He has throughout spent all his time on his political work, and is regarded as a very conscientious, though not particularly popular, constituency Member.

Now George Gardiner is in trouble in Reigate. On Friday evening his constituency association will be meeting in Reigate Grammar School to decide whether to select or deselect him as the Conservative candidate for the next election. The outcome will be important to the Government. If he is not supported, George Gardiner has said that he will resign, and there will be a by-election, which would probably be lost. He is not himself expected to fight the by-election, and would be making a big financial sacrifice, but he has made up his mind. I have spoken to him and do not doubt that he will do what he says.

If the Conservatives lose Reigate they lose their majority, and will depend, precariously, on Ulster Unionist support to get through next winter. The Conservatives would be expected to lose an early general election, possibly by a landslide. By the spring they hope for a more favourable economic and political climate. The Reigate Conservative Association could therefore be deciding the result of the next election, or at least the size of a Labour majority.

There are a number of issues. There has been some feuding inside the association, partly on geographical grounds, partly personal and perhaps partly party. The pro-Gardiner south of the constituency is thought to be rather grander than the north, and Surrey is conscious of the social nuance. George Gardiner's personality is part of the problem. He is said to be weak on the wine and cheese

which in Reigate means a dry white burgundy and canapés. He is not a charmer like Nick Scott, who was lucky to survive in Chelsea in more difficult circumstances.

There is also the loyalty issue. George Gardiner is opposed to Maastricht, as indeed was Lady Thatcher herself. He held a constituency consultation when John Major resigned as leader, and it came out 55 per cent for Major; he nevertheless used his own judgment to vote for John Redwood. The great paradox of

working hard to support him, for fear of a by-election. He has even been warmly praised at a constituency dinner by the irritable Brian Mawhinney, for whom it must have been almost intolerable to have to be polite to a dissident backbencher. Central Office actually has nothing much against George except that he is an anti-Maastricht Thatcherite who has lost confidence in John Major: in that he is not alone in the party.

The troubles in Reigate are fairly typical of the disturbed state of many constituency associations. The Conservatives regularly reconstitute their constituency parties in opposition. In 1995, the associations were run down after the war; after that election defeat, new people came in. The parties were probably at their greatest post-war strength in the early 1980s. A similar process took place after the defeat of 1964 and again after 1974. No new defeat has brought in a large recruitment since 1974, more than 20 years ago. Young Conservative numbers have fallen disastrously. In many constituencies the leadership is very elderly. Those over 70 are not as active or as keen as they were.

In their periods of strength, Conservative associations have worked very closely with Conservative leadership in local government. The losses of local government seats were bound to damage the associations as well: they have lost their councillors and their vital contact with local power. Some associations have not

been able to raise enough money to pay for agents, and the organisations have deteriorated. As they get weaker, and membership falls, they tend to become more divided, because there is no convincing leadership to hold them together. There are local disputes, about which part of the constituency should hold the key offices: these can arise from boundary changes. There are comic social disputes, with shrill war cries of "out-of-touch snobs" and "double-glazing salesmen". There are, however, fewer disputes than there used to be between the young and the old — because there are few young people left.

The Conservative Party in the country is now weaker than at any time since the mid 1940s. All the work of the stalwarts, from Lord Woolton onwards, seems to have been undone, partly by neglect, partly by lack of political motivation and partly by attrition. Of course, television has made local organisation less important than it was: it is the television campaign which gets the message across, and gets the vote out.

There are exceptions to this depressing picture. Yet most of the associations show the symptoms of decline and confusion. The majority of active Conservatives are loyal to John Major because he is the leader, but a majority are also increasingly sceptical about European policy. They find Kenneth Clarke's views on the single currency outrageous; he is not personally unpopular, but his views are. They are not sure that the Government, with its almost daily blunders, really deserves to win the next election, but they do not at all look forward to a Labour government. They have been beaten, too often in local elections. Their morale is low. George Gardiner has to contend with the backlash of all these complex reactions. John Major can only hope that his own loyalists will not turn George Gardiner out and force a by-election.

William Rees-Mogg

Friday evening will be that every vote against George Gardiner will be cast by Major loyalists but could have the effect of destroying John Major's parliamentary majority. His opponents claim that George Gardiner's threat to resign is blackmail. One of them has said: "We can't have a pistol to our heads." This was also the view taken by most of our European partners of John Major's tactics on beef: in politics, those fortunate enough to possess pistols usually do put them to their opponents' heads.

My own guess is that George Gardiner's threat will work. Central Office, which does not really like him, is

An escapologist out of luck

John Major has wriggled out again, says Peter Riddell, but can he survive the people's test?



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

John Major is condemned to survive. He has repeatedly faced, or set himself, political traps from which he has eventually escaped. Starting with the endless Maastricht saga, through successive European battles, to the leadership contest of a year ago, and now the Florence summit, Mr Major has confounded predictions of disaster and defeat to win a short-lived respite. Each time, there has been talk of a fresh start, only for familiar problems and party divisions to reappear within weeks, if not days.

The compromise over the beef ban was probably about the best that could be achieved in the circumstances. A framework now exists for the phased lifting of the ban linked to British steps to eradicate BSE — and that was the main aim when the non-cooperation policy began five weeks ago. But despite the confident claims Mr Major is likely to make in the Commons this afternoon, there is no definite timetable, and there are many ifs and buts, typified by the vague statement of the Italian presidency about exports of beef outside the European Union. I would not bet on eating British beef in Johannesburg, let alone Bonn, for a long time.

The deal has at least allowed Britain to drop its damaging policy of non-cooperation over EU decisions. Mr Major, and Malcolm Rifkind yesterday, have predictably claimed that the agreement would not have been possible without the blocking tactics. This is unprovable. It is not only denied by other countries but ignores the fact that the real change in the past month has been the submission by Britain of detailed proposals for removing BSE, including

the slaughter of more cattle than originally suggested.

The non-cooperation policy probably made little difference to the summit deal, or its timing, but it has undoubtedly weakened Britain's long-term position in the EU. The affair has confirmed all the doubts that the rest of Europe has about the Major Government. A direct result is likely to be an intensification of efforts in the inter-governmental conference (IGC) to bypass the British veto via treaty amendments on qualified majority voting, and by allowing an inner core of countries to press ahead with closer integration regardless of British objections. Mr Major also favours what has become known as "variable geometry", but only if all countries agree to new arrangements for flexibility on partic-

ular issues. Britain does not want to suffer from being outside an inner monetary or political core. This dispute will surface at the two Dublin summits, in October and December.

The beef row has also misfired domestically. It has aggravated, rather than lessened, Tory divisions over Europe. The unusual reticence of most sceptics over the weekend mainly reflects a shrewd tactical judgment that the real battle is about the IGC, since they are privately very critical of what Mr Major has achieved. There could still be rumblings of dissent from farming MPs in the Commons, although Labour's criticisms are undermined by its misguided tactic of half-hearted

backing non-cooperation. And to satisfy his own sceptics, Mr Major may now feel he has to sound tougher about the IGC, even though he is likely to stop well short of their desire (shared by some in the Cabinet) to repatriate powers from the EU. This is likely to increase further the disenchantment of the Tory pro-Europeans.

Mr Major hopes now to highlight Tory differences from Labour on the national veto and European social policies. But the beef row has been a damaging distraction, preventing the Tories from focusing on opposition policies before the publication of Labour's draft manifesto in ten days' time. Labour has been able to hide many of the arguments involved in drafting, especially over public spending. Mr Major launches his

much-trumpeted assault on constitutional reform on Wednesday, but I doubt it will be as much of a vote-winner as he believes, despite the many flaws in Labour's approach.

All the talk about a beef war or a snap "patriotic" election — admittedly more in the press than in the mouths of ministers — has now been shown for the empty nonsense it always was. Naturally, contingency plans exist for an autumn election, since one could be forced by the disappearance of the Tories' majority or events in Ireland, but most of Mr Major's top advisers still favour next year. Few in the political world seem to have noticed two recent announcements by Tony Newton: first, that there is "virtually certain" to be an overspill session to complete legislation in October, making an election then difficult; and secondly, that the Budget will be on November 26, ruling out a post-Budget election at the end of this year. Both could change, but announcing them now narrows the Tories' freedom for manoeuvre.

Labour's current lead in the polls may be exaggerated, but the Tories are still much further behind than before any of their past victories. The pick-up in Tory support in yesterday's poll in *The Sunday Times* is too isolated to provide firm evidence of a revival (a clearer guide will come from the MORI poll in *The Times* later this week). It is absurd to link Tory fortunes to England's success in Euro 96, so far: voters know the difference between Terry Venables and Mr Major. Anyway, sporting success has never helped a party in the past. Contrary to the belief of even senior politicians, England won the World Cup in 1966 four months after Harold Wilson won a 100-seat majority, not before, and there is no evidence that England's loss in 1970 played any part in Wilson's defeat a few days later.

Having sensibly defused the beef confrontation, Mr Major has little choice but to slog on, probably until next spring. But the challenge then may be beyond even his skills as a party manager and escapologist.

Chop of bother

THE Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, appalled music-lovers at the Aldeburgh Festival at the weekend when she disrupted a Mahler symphony during a quiet moment by taking off in a helicopter outside the hall.

Nanny Bottomley had already surprised concertgoers with her arrival in a black chopper with flashy go-faster stripes. Swinging her handbag and humming a soft "Ing-ger-land, Ing-ger-land" when she alighted, she explained that she had been at Wembley where the

game had overrun: the helicopter had been the only means of getting to the concert on time.

Those attending the concert at the Snape Maltings were of a different cultural persuasion from the full-bellied football supporters she had been chanting with earlier. "Too awful," remarked one. "She parked her helicopter bang next to the hall. The Queen parks hers up the hill, out of sight."

After the interval, Nanny jumped back into the cockpit. Her pilot cranked up just as the orchestra was playing the haunting evocation of a child's vision of heaven from Mahler's Fourth. "Why she couldn't leave during the interval I don't know," complained an Aldeburgh veteran. "It was deafening — very vulgar behaviour." I am assured by the Heritage Department that the flight was beyond her control: the concert's sponsor, the Eastern Group, paid for and organised her flight. "She says it was a wonderful concert and very much regrets any disturbance," said her press assistant. "But the helicopter had to get back to its heliport in time, so she had to leave early."



Bottomley: disturbance

● The Princess of Wales's brother, Lord Spencer, has come up against a formidable authority in Cape Town. The head of the girls' school attended by his young daughter Kitty has turned down his repeated requests to allow a bodyguard to accompany her during school hours. Quite right too.

More Cash

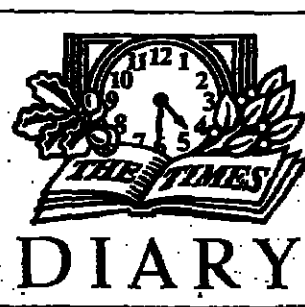
JOHN MAJOR may resent her giving money to Bill Cash, but Baroness Thatcher was back loyal to fund-raising on Saturday night, at Belvoir Castle near Grantham.

She was the Duke of Rutland's guest of honour at a £100-a-head bash in aid of the Tory fund for marginal seats. Some £25,000 was raised. British beef was eaten and the lady received a seven-gun salute from the 18th-century cannon.

As the sun set, she rose above the bartlements to address the troops. "She was loyal and inspiring," gushed the duke. "I announced the football result at dinner. The Baroness was very keen that England should have a chance to demolish Germany."

What a hoot

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What a hoot

ALAN AYCKBOURN and Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical *By Jeeves* has run into a spot of bother

with the local constables. Simon Day, who plays Gussie Fink-Nottle in the P.G. Wodehouse adaptation is due in court in Scarborough next week, on the day of the first night in the West End.

He is up on a bothersome charge which Gussie, the new-fancier, might well have committed himself. "I borrowed my landlady's car and she said I was insured. But it rather turns out that actually I wasn't," he stammers. "And I forgot to do up my seatbelt and the police pulled me over."

"When they asked if it was my car I panicked a bit and said it was. They asked if I had a licence and I said I did have one but I'd lost it. I jolly well hope the court will accept a letter putting my case, or I could be in the stocks at curtain-up."

Of a kind

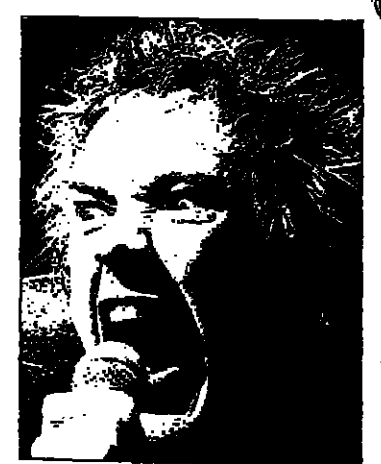
ENGLAND footballer Stuart "Psycho" Pearce's triumphant penalty at Wembley on Saturday was one thing. Yesterday, he lived another dream. A former punk rocker himself, he popped down to Finsbury Park in London with an escort from the Football Association for the chance to meet his favourite band, the Sex Pistols, when the aged punks regrouped for a concert. Pearce, who once wrote for punk



Pearce and his hero, Johnny Rotten

fanzines, says *Anarchy in the UK* by the Sex Pistols remains his favourite track. On the door of his gym at Nottingham Forest, a notice reads: "Mad Dog's Health Spa. No jeans. No guns. No knives. Punk compilation tapes blast out from the dressing-room at the Forest, where other players have to suffer his tasteless taste: the Stranglers, the Clash and the Damned."

Pearce watched the game between Germany and Croatia while backstage, and was expected to watch the Pistols when they came on stage. "He's here to watch the Pistols. He's one of their greatest



fans." And he has been invited to watch their next concert in July.

● After driving herself to the Queen's Cup polo in Windsor Great Park yesterday, the Queen appeared to be in a frightful mood. She stomped past the crowds of youngsters without a smile or a wave. And matters didn't improve. When Kerry Packard's team won the trophy for best-dressed team, the bust of a horse fell off its pedestal and the Queen had to present it in two bits.

P.H.S



Mr Hamilton and his supporters are therefore anxious to be able to waive privilege when it suits their purpose. They would then be able to pursue libel actions

It will be difficult for a Government only too conscious of the strength of backbench feeling and aware of its own fraying authority to reverse these amendments. But the ancient liberties of our constitution and the vigour of a truly free press should not be eroded by submission to special pleading.

Too much has been made of the process that led to the new Cabinet, in particular the way in which Ariel Sharon attempted to barter himself into office on the basis that David Levy would not serve as Foreign Minister unless he was included. This has been allowed to obscure two significant developments. The first is that by the standards that the Israeli electoral system of proportional representation permits, this Cabinet has been assembled with relatively little inter-party rancour. Mr Netanyahu

The problem is largely one of perception. Too often a hospital matron is seen as a figure from the *Carry On* films: a stout and intimidating harriidan, quick with a sharp word and a sharp needle and all too enthusiastic to administer an enema. Doctors, too, are stereotyped by their fictional portrayal, which only emphasises, for dramatic effect, the hospital hierarchy. But in truth most skills overlap, as do most qualifications. This symbiosis is increasingly recognised by both the British Medical Association and the Royal College of Nursing, which have cautiously welcomed the expanding role of nurses. Gillian Erickson has, quite properly, informed patients that she is a nurse, not a doctor. And to her credit, they have entrusted themselves to her care. She exemplifies the best of the Nightingale tradition.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS A. H. STACEY,
Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.
June 20.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP ANSLEY-WATSON,
46 Hurstdene Avenue,
Staines, Middlesex.
June 21.

Yours sincerely,
P. H. BORCHERDS,
71 Swarthmore Road, Birmingham.
June 18.

Minke whaling is carried out by small coastal fishing boats, not "factory ships", as your leader seems to imply. They do not have processing capacity, and must therefore make

Gilbert and Wallace

Without in any way wishing to detract from Mr Gilbert's generosity, may I remind Lord Rothschild that in 1897 Lady Wallace, widow of Sir Richard Wallace (and herself French by birth), left to the nation 5,470 works of art. These are now exhibited at Hertford House, Manchester Square, London as "the Wallace Collection", and together comprise one of the great museums of the world.

More and more couples, heterosexual as well as homosexual, are already making and breaking relationships which are equivalent to marriage without any formal recognition by either Church or State.

From Mr S. M. Hayes
Sir, Reaction to the proposed freight

ious, given the blithe way in which major road schemes are largely accepted as necessary evils. Railways take very little land, blend easily into the environment and cause minimal

Sir, South Africa is fortunate to have a number of whale species that not only enter our waters, but in the case of southern right whales, come very close to our shores. This provides a unique opportunity to watch these magnificent creatures of the deep at close range.

Yours sincerely,
MENDI MSIMANG,
High Commissioner,
South African High Commission,
Trafalgar Square, WC2.
June 20.

His heart was in the right place. Were he to be awarded the Nobel Prize, he told us in 1983, he would buy the collected works of Robert Louis Stevenson. It was not to be: the idiosyncratic (reactionary?) committee passed him over, as Woodall notes.

Last dance

However, I, and many of my colleagues, believe that the National Lottery is the main culprit. With countless recipients of lottery awards all chasing matching funding from the same corporate sponsors, there are many other companies facing the same fate.

The road to fame
From Mr John Raybould

Yours in the cause of the
dismal science.
JOHN RAYBOULD,
The Old Vicarage,
High Street,
Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex.
June 18.

I was informed by the lady who answered the telephone (later confirmed by the supervisor) that they did not keep addresses and telephone numbers of local councils.

Yours faithfully,
ALEX ALAGAPPA,
Chairman,
British Legal Association,
4 Kingsend, Ruislip, Middlesex.
June 21.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

OBITUARIES

Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister of Greece 1981-89 and 1993-96 died yesterday aged 77. He was born on February 19, 1919.

WHEN Andreas Papandreu first swept to power as Greece's Socialist Prime Minister in 1981, he appeared to embody the simple aspirations of a generation of Greeks frustrated in the years after the Second World War by political strife and right-wing extremism. By the time of his death 15 years later, after more than ten years in the prime ministership — as well as four in opposition — it was not easy to envisage him in quite such austere terms.

This had a good deal to do with his acquisition of an apparently luxurious lifestyle and a glamorous third wife, Dimitra — known in Greece as "Mimi" — a former air stewardess half his age, who before she had become his wife, had been a most publicly flaunted mistress. Later, as his health declined, her power grew. By the time of his death, she was head of his private office, had discretion over who might or might not see him and had announced her intention to run for parliament in the 1997 elections.

Many a minister who crossed her was left eating his heart out on the political sidelines. But repeated attempts to torpedo her progress — using fair means or foul — by the tabloid press failed completely. One publisher was recently sentenced to 16 months' imprisonment after being convicted of "an unprovoked insult" against her, having published a photograph that purported to show her cavorting naked.

But, in truth, from the very moment Papandreu had taken office for the first time, his administration had been forced to dilute the doctrinal purity of its more radical promises. Like similar governments it had to bow to the inexorable realities of a creaking economy — where to buy at affordable prices and how to obtain the cash to pay for the goods. This pragmatism forced about-turns that delighted his opponents and exposed contradictions that undermined his credibility.

At the outset he had given his party, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasek), a distinctly anti-Western orientation. This envisaged Greece's best interests as being served outside the Nato alliance or the European Community, a Greece free of American military bases and nuclear arms, in close rapport with the non-aligned nations.

In the face of endemic economic crisis none of this was sufficient to keep the electorate loyal to Pasok, and in 1989 it was overtaken in the popular vote by the New Democratic (ND) Party. Although ND had no overall parliamentary majority, severe heart trouble and news of his impending divorce from his popular American second wife tended to undermine Papandreu's position and, unable to form a government, he eventually resigned.

Successor administrations were able to fare no better, however. After being acquitted, in 1992, of embezzlement charges, Papandreu, though continuing in poor health, took Pasok to victory in the

general election of 1993. This victory, combined with Greece's assumption of the presidency of the European Union at the outset of 1994, caused considerable anxiety among Greece's European partners.

In the event, Papandreu showed himself prepared to modify his stance. But the EU countries found themselves further troubled over their recognition of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, since the name Macedonia is claimed by Greece as being indelibly Greek. But by this time Papandreu's health was in sharp decline and Pasok deputies had, of late, become increasingly vociferous in their demand that a successor be found for him.

He fell ill again in December 1995, suffering pneumonia which rapidly developed complications and he was admitted to the Onassis Cardiac Centre. His prolonged stay there led to political paralysis in Greece. Prompted by his wife, he refused all suggestions that he should resign and no one in his Cabinet dared to tell him that he should go. A succession of foreign doctors were brought over, including Sir Magdi Yacoub, and Papandreu spent weeks on life-support machines. Finally, he was persuaded to resign as Prime Minister by his son George. He rallied, and left hospital at the beginning of this year. But even up until the time of his death from a heart attack yesterday, he could never quite relinquish the reins of power and intended to stand again for the chairmanship of Pasok next month.

Andreas George Papandreu was born on the island of Chios, the son of George Papandreu, who was Prime Minister of Greece, 1963-65, before being forced to resign by King Constantine II. He went to school at the American College of Athens and in 1938 he enrolled in Athens University's law school.

A year later, after he had been arrested briefly by the security police of the Metaxas dictatorship for publishing a Trotskyist bulletin, his father sent him to the United States, where in 1943 he took a PhD in economics at Harvard. Becoming a US citizen in 1944, he had a successful academic career, teaching in several American universities.

In 1950, while he was chairman of the department of economics at the University of California at Berkeley, the then Greek Prime Minister, Constantine Karamanlis, invited him to return home and organise a Greek Centre of Economic Research. While on this assignment he developed a taste for politics.

Prompted by American friends who thought he would be their country's natural ally, he allowed himself to be persuaded by his father (eager to establish a Papandreu dynasty in Greek politics), to give up his US citizenship and stand for election to parliament. In 1953 George Papandreu won a narrow victory over the Right: in the following year he led his party to a landslide victory which took his son to parliament.

The elder Papandreu promptly created Andreas a sort of super-minister and never concealed his aspiration to make him his successor, much to the distress of

ANDREAS PAPANDREOU



the party's old-timers. This resentment, coupled with Andreas's attempt to secure his succession rights by befriending a group of young army officers, led to a Cabinet crisis in July 1965 and enabled the King to ease the Papandreu out of office.

The Centre Union party split and its defectors, with the help of the Right, governed for nearly 18 months. Andreas used this time to build up his personal power within his father's party, challenging in the process all the taboos of the Establishment, from the rights of the monarchy to the Army's political role, and the alliance with the Americans.

When, early in 1967, his father agreed to settle his feud with the King in conformity with the established rules, Andreas challenged his father's authority. The conflict was soon ironed out but it became clear that in the elections scheduled for May of that year (which the Centre Union was almost certain to win), Andreas would dominate his father's party and cause it to swing to the left.

This prospect gave a pretext for a handful of army colonels (who had for long nursed plans for a putsch) to seize power overnight on April 20-21. Andreas and his father were arrested and detained, but later he obtained permission to go abroad where he set up the Panhellenic Liberation Movement, which was to become the nucleus of his political party after the Junta's downfall in 1974.

After his return to Greece he claimed no political legacy from the Centre Party of his father, who had died during the dictatorship. He founded his own Panhellenic Socialist Movement which adopted a distinct left-of-centre posture, covering a

broad spectrum that reached the Marxist boundaries of the newly legalised Communist Party of Greece.

In the elections of November 1974 Pasok polled barely one seventh of the total vote, returning only 15 deputies in the 300-seat Assembly. Its policy took on sharp anti-American and anti-European overtones and Papandreu preached non-alignment in foreign affairs. In the three years that followed, however, Papandreu organised strongly and in 1977 increased Pasok's parliamentary representation sixfold, to 93, making it the second strongest party in Parliament.

Thanks to the average Greek's inclination to blame others for his troubles, his anti-American and anti-Nato platforms seemed to be vindicated. The steady deterioration in the economic situation at home, combined with the switch of Karamanlis to the presidency of the republic, which weakened the ruling party, encouraged him to make his bid for power in the elections of 1981.

To increase Pasok's chances he tried to lure the centrist vote. He refurbished the party's image to show that it was not a revolutionary organisation but a respectable and dependable political party. He established cordial relations with Western European Socialists, and, above all, made occasional statements on Nato, the EEC, and the American bases that could be interpreted equally by the conservatives as a switch towards moderation, and by the Marxists as a tactical manoeuvre. On October 18, 1981, Pasok won an unexpected victory over the New Democracy party under the Prime Minister, George Rallis.

Papandreu's programme provided for

extensive "social control" of basic economic units, administrative decentralisation and popular participation in decision-making. And, though few of these grandiloquent promises were fulfilled, Pasok won an impressive second victory in a snap election in June 1985, thanks to his political manoeuvring and winning rhetoric. He eased out of office the conservative head of state, President Karamanlis, just before the elections, in order to persuade his disgruntled supporters on the Left that he had successfully removed the last obstacle to 100 per cent socialism. But his choice of a successor in Christos Sartzetakis was less than fortunate and he was soon to regret it.

During his second term the going became rough. The economy, exhausted by his lavishness towards the underprivileged, sagged dangerously. Inflation soared, state deficits and unemployment grew and so did the foreign debt. An austerity programme imposed for two years remedied some of the damage but it was terminated prematurely because the political cost was too high.

The outbreak of financial scandals, allegedly involving high-ranking members of his administration, culminated in the notorious Bank of Crete £130 million embezzlement and bribery case. Papandreu's own prestige had already suffered heavily because of his affair with Dimitra Liani, daughter of a distinguished army officer and the wife of a senior official of the Greek Communist Party. He chose her, rather than his American-born wife of 37 years, Margaret, to escort him when, in August 1988, he was suddenly flown to London for a heart operation. He survived against all odds and returned to

Greece to face a crisis within his party, prompted by the Bank of Crete scandal. Although many aspects of this touched him personally, he dismissed the allegations as a Western conspiracy to bring down his Government.

In the elections of June 18, 1989, when he was expected to suffer major reverses, he managed to acquire himself reasonably, securing two out of every five votes throughout the country. After several attempts to form a Government he tendered his resignation. Two days before polling day his divorce had become final and he subsequently married Mrs Liani who, he proclaimed *urbi et orbi*, had saved his life.

A period of political confusion followed, with several votes being held in quick succession to try to resolve the parliamentary deadlock. Eventually, in April 1990, ND managed to form a government, which soon however found itself beleaguered by strikes, demonstrations and illegal occupations of public buildings, in protest at its vigorous privatisation programme. In the meantime, in March 1991, Papandreu and three of his former ministers were brought to trial on charges of massive embezzlement from the Bank of Crete during their term of office. After a nine-month hearing Papandreu was acquitted of all charges while two of his ministers received only minor sentences (the third had died during the trial).

By the middle of 1993 the ND Government was in complete disarray in the face of unrest in both public and private sectors, the face of its policy of privatisation and wage restraint, and when it lost its parliamentary majority after the defection of two of its deputies a general election was called for October 10. Romping in victory, Papandreu announced a repeal of all his predecessor's privatisation policies. But when he sought to put this into effect in the case of the bus industry he immediately faced opposition from protesters, who blocked bus depots and had to be dispersed by riot police.

His country's presidency of the EU, held for six months from January 1994, momentarily raised his standing within Greece, though he felt it necessary to temper Pasok's historic anti-European stance, simply to give some plausibility to his country's tenure of the office. His sharp attacks on European Nato airstrikes in Bosnia and European attitudes to Macedonia were more popular at home, but the underlying weakness of the Greek economy continued to bedevil his Government. Rampant inflation and a huge budget deficit only added to the woes of a country which has a visibly massive gulf between rich and poor.

Papandreu himself, increasingly protected from outside interference by his wife and self-appointed chief of staff, drew criticism for his purchase of a luxury villa, apparently with interest-free loans from Cabinet colleagues. Later, in increasingly poor health, he had been unable to participate in the drafting of the 1996 budget.

He is survived by his wife Dimitra, and by three sons, one of whom, Georgios, is Education Minister, and one daughter of his second marriage.



Ray Lindwall, MBE, cricketer, died in Brisbane on June 23 aged 74. He was born at Mascot, near Sydney, on October 3, 1921.

RAY LINDWALL was one of cricket's truly great fast bowlers, admired and respected by friend and foe alike. His total of 228 Test wickets was an Australian record, and of those, 114 were taken in 29

Anglo-Australian Tests. When first-class cricket was resumed after the Second World War, England had no bowlers of more than a brisk medium pace. Not for six years had their batsmen's reactions been genuinely tested, so that when, in the winter of 1946-47, an MCC side went to Australia, they were confounded by the sheer speed of Lindwall's bowling. With the equally dashing and popular

Keith Miller, he formed a fast bowling partnership to compare with any there has ever been.

Raymond Russell Lindwall was born with a natural aptitude for games. By the age of 16 he was playing for St George, a first grade club in Sydney, captained at the time by the legendary leg spin and googly bowler, Bill O'Reilly. Although O'Reilly was then past his prime, Lindwall always said he owed much to his influence, and the two of them played a few games together for New South Wales in the early years of the war and briefly afterwards.

Lindwall surfed well, was a first grade rugby league full back and a sprinter who clocked 10.8 seconds over 100 yards. He was also no mean batsman. In his first Test series, against England in 1946-47, he scored a century at Melbourne in only 115 minutes. But it was as a bowler of infinite grace and rhythm and timing and menace and swing that he excelled.

There have been faster bowlers, men stronger and more fearsome, but there have been none cleverer. His arm was probably a shade low for his action to be perfect, yet this seemed, if anything, to make his swerve more subtle. He conserved his energy and changed his pace as it suited

him, and used the bouncer sparingly enough for it to be a weapon of surprise.

From the time that he returned from service with the Australian Army in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands during the war until 1953, he was feared wherever he bowled. From 1954, when he was 33, it was more his love and enthusiasm for the game that kept him going. He was 38 when he played the last of his 61 Test hundreds. When, reluctantly, he retired in 1962, he had taken 794 first-class wickets at 21.35 apiece, and had long since moved from his native New South Wales to Queensland, where Sheffield Shield side he captained for five years.

Lindwall became one of the first full-time Australian professional cricketers when he went, in 1952, to play for Nelson in the Lancashire League. When there, he found that his natural outswinger beat the bat so often that he was obliged to perfect the ball that went the other way. He was soon so versatile that he could bowl six different balls in the same over, all on a length or thereabouts and all without seeming to stretch himself. When MCC was experimenting with a smaller ball it invited Lindwall to the Nursery ground at Lord's to see what he could do with it.

The result was so devastating that the project was abandoned.

There are still many Englishmen who might say that if they could be granted one last wish in cricket it would be to see Lindwall opening the bowling in a Test match at Lord's with Len Hutton batting and Denis Compton to follow.

His playing days over, Lindwall became an Australian selector for a while, and with his wife he ran a florist business in Brisbane. He always kept his cricketing friendships in repair and came whenever he could to England. He was there for the last time towards the end of last summer as a supporter of the New South Wales side which was playing a match or two against Surrey. But though as cheerful as ever, he had suffered a minor amputation.

Lindwall's old partner, Keith Miller, has just been on a visit to England to see the current Test match. Cricket can never have known two more resplendent figures than he and Lindwall when they were hunting as a pair with Don Bradman's 1948 side in England, one of the strongest Australian ever fielded.

Ray Lindwall is survived by his wife Peggy and by their son.

Professor Rob Kidd, marine geoscientist, died of a heart attack on June 9 aged 48. He was born on September 17, 1947.

FOR more than two decades Rob Kidd was a major contributor to the Earth's evolutionary data by means of deep ocean drilling. His studies on palaeoceanography, sediment drift and high resolution stratigraphy were widely acclaimed, while his work on the formation of metalliferous deposits in the deep oceans was to presage the 1979 discovery of the deep-sea hot water vents with their mineral precipitates and strange biota. This was to help to revolutionise 20th-century views of the planet.

Kidd's study of submarine currents and sediments culminated in the discovery of catastrophic giant sediment slides of the continental shelves which travel hundreds of kilometres along the ocean floor at great speed. The implications of this work for the environment is only now being realised.

More recently, in 1994, he redrew the map of the Mediterranean seabed, after discovering 21 new and active mud volcanoes, the largest of which he named after his home town, Milford Haven.

Robert Benjamin Kidd was born into a Welsh fishing



family and educated at Milford Haven Grammar School, from where he went on to study geology at Kingston College of Technology. There his interest in sedimentology was ignited. He studied for a doctorate at Southampton University.

In 1973 Kidd became a visiting scientist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California, where he carried out the first synthesis on sediment distributions in a developing ocean through time. It was here that he began his long-standing relationship with the deep-sea drilling programme. In 1975 he returned to Britain to the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences at Wormley, where he began his

studies on large-scale sedimentary features.

His academic career took him back to America in 1984 to become Professor of Oceanography at Texas A & M University.

Kidd returned to Wales in 1986 to work at Swansea, before transferring to the University of Wales, Cardiff, in 1989. There he established one of the most active seagoing geological and geophysical groups in Britain. He worked tirelessly to promote deep ocean drilling and in 1994 his efforts were rewarded when for two years his department was host to the offices of the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling. It was the first time in its 25-year history that this office had been located outside America. For Kidd it provided an opportunity to determine the future of deep ocean drilling into the next millennium and to ensure that key research into the global environment would continue.

Just days before his death, Kidd was presented with the Geological Society's Major Edward Coke Medal for his outstanding achievements in research and for his commitment and contribution to marine geoscience.

He is survived by his wife, Rosalie, and by their four sons.

Appointments

The Rev John Barnes, Rector, Amthorpe, Doncaster, to be also Rural Dean of Doncaster (Sheffield).
The Rev Fred Patrick Blake, to be Clergy (and Widows) Retirement Officer (Bath and Wells).
The Rev Paul Boughton, Assistant Curate, Christ Church, Guildford, to be Rector, St Mary, Fitcham (Guildford).
The Rev Andii Bowsher, to be Vicar, St Augustine, Bradford.
The Rev Alec Brown, Curate, Stockton Heath, to be Curate-in-Charge, Thelwall (Chester).
The Rev Gordon Callthrop-Owen, Vicar, St Swithin, Woodborough, to be also Rural Dean of Gilling (Southwell).
The Rev James Caterer, Vicar, Stodish w Haresfield and Mordid, Valence w Whitminster, to be Priest-in-Charge, St Stephen's, Gloucester (Gloucester).
The Rev Canon Peter Christensen, Chaplain to the Wirral Hospitals NHS Trust, to be Vicar, Higher Bebbington (Chester).
The Rev Janet Clark, Curate, All

Saints', Edmonton, to be Vicar, St Stephen's, West Ealing (London).
The Rev Peter Clarke, Priest-in-Charge, All Saints and St Saviour, Weston-super-Mare, now Vicar, All Saints and Saviour, Weston-super-Mare (Bath and Wells).
The Rev Marion Chatterback, Assistant Curate, Lindfield, All Saints' (Chichester), to be Team Vicar, Alderbury Team Ministry (Salisbury).
The Rev Diane Conson, Curate, Neston, to be Vicar, Stockport St Saviour (Chester).
The Rev Christopher Copeland, Priest-in-Charge, Grimley w Holi and Stewardship Missioner (Worcester), to be Priest-in-Charge, Forest of Dean, Christ Church w English Bicknor (Gloucester).
The Rev James Cox, Assistant Curate, St Peter, Harborne, to be Assistant Curate, St Andrew, Chelmsley Wood (Birmingham).
The Rev Barry Cumberland, Dean of Manila Cathedral (Philippines), to be Chaplain, St Peter and

St Sigfrid, Stockholm, Sweden (Europe).
The Rev Richard Deadman, Vicar, Grangeover Parish Church, Middlesex (York), to be Vicar, St Luke, Wallend (Newcastle).
The Rev Philip Dobson, Assistant Curate, Cove, to be Vicar, St Martin, Camberley (Guildford).
The Rev Graham Dodds, Rector, Bath Walcot, to be Lay Training Adviser and Director of Reader Studies (Bath and Wells).
The Rev Bryan East, Assistant Curate, Waltham Cross (St Albans), to be Assistant Curate, Longlevens, Gloucester (Gloucester).
The Rev Gwyneth Evans, Chaplain, Salisbury District Hospital (Salisbury), to be also a Non-Residential Canon of Salisbury Cathedral.
The Rev Andrew Facey, Assistant Curate, Egham, to be Priest-in-Charge, St Paul, East Molesey (Guildford).
The Rev Shirley Ford, Assistant

Curate, Farnham, to be Vicar, Wrotesham (Guildford).
The Rev Rens Garner, Curate, Ashdon upon Mersey, St Mary Magdalene, to be Priest-in-Charge, Sredbury St Mark (Chester).
The Rev Stephen Hanco, Curate, St Jude, Southsea (Portsmouth), to be Team Vicar Designate, St Saviour, Stroud Green in the Tollington Team Ministry, Islington (London).
The Rev Alan Hodgkins, Vicar, Effingham w Little Bookham, to be Rector, St John the Evangelist, Merrow (Guildford).
The Rev George Hodgkinson, Team Vicar, St Helen, Solihull Team Ministry, to be Priest-in-Charge, Holy Cross, Billisley Common (Birmingham).
The Rev Anthony Humphries, Assistant Curate, Workson, St John, to be Assistant Curate, Reford, St Saviour (Southwell).
The Rev Barry Irons, Priest-in-Charge, St John's, Weston-super-Mare, now Rector, St John's, Weston-super-Mare (Bath and Wells).

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: NEW BUILDING.

A Correspondent of *The Times* yesterday paid a visit to the new premises of the British Medical Association in the Strand, for the purpose of inspecting the statues by Mr. Epstein which have been already executed and are in process of execution on the two fronts of the building. It has been suggested that the statues are objectionable from the point of view of public morality. It may be well to explain, at the outset, that there are 18 statues representing various phases of human life, and certain symbolic figures. Eight other figures represent youth and maidenhood. Our Correspondent, accompanied by a friend, first examined the figures from the street. The statues are at a height of 40ft. to 50ft. from the ground, and cannot be seen adequately except at some distance. The only figures to which, in the opinion of our Correspondent and his companion, any exception could conceivably be taken are three or four nude male figures, which,

ON THIS DAY

June 24, 1908

The statues by Jacob Epstein on the new British Medical Association premises in London attracted adverse criticism but were stoutly defended by the artists Charles Ricketts and Charles Shannon.

however, are neither indecent nor even remotely suggestive. The statue of "Maternity" represents a woman in pregnancy. This figure is turned towards the wall, and is so high up on the building that the particular feature to which exception is taken can scarcely be distinguished except by aid of an opera glass or a telescope; and there is nothing even remotely immodest in the pose or execution of the figure. A closer inspection *in situ* from the platform from which the work is being carried out

confirmed the first impression that the statues are inoffensive from the point of view of public morality, and in no way justify the strictures which have been passed upon them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, — *The Evening Standard* and *St. James's Gazette* have devoted three articles to the statue of the statues now denouncing the new buildings of the British Medical Association. The editor admits that "many letters" have been received in defence of these works. These letters have not been published.

Would you allow two artists to express their opinion on these statues and on the buildings? We would urge that it is unfair to suppress all expert opinion on this matter, since it is manifest that the writer in the *Evening Standard*, &c., is unacquainted with the "degree of nudity" allowed in the decorations of public buildings in England or on the Continent, such as the Sistine Chapel.

Yours obediently,

C. RICKETTS.

CHARLES SHANNON.

Lansdowne-house, Lansdowne-road, Holland-park, W.

NEWS

School tests give Shephard boost

A dramatic improvement in the standards achieved by 11-year-olds in this summer's national tests in English and mathematics has given a boost to Gillian Shephard's step-by-step approach to education reform.

On the eve of the announcement of radical new plans to fulfil John Major's dream of a grammar school in every town the results, being published later this year, are valuable ammunition for the Education and Employment Secretary. Page 1

Major says ban over 'within months'

John Major will today risk estimating the date that the worldwide European Union ban on British beef exports will be removed when he tells MPs it should be lifted completely "within months". Pages 1, 7, 11

Prisons row

Michael Howard has clashed with the new Chief Inspector of Prisons and attempted to stop him discussing prison policy in public. Page 1

Portillo returns

Michael Portillo is returning to the Conservative frontline to spearhead the fightback against the Labour Party. Page 2

Wembley fury

Extra police were called to Wembley box office as angry football fans, many of whom had queued for more than 12 hours, threatened officials who refused to sell them tickets for the Euro 96 semi-final. Pages 1, 3

Course victory

An exclusive golf club whose members include the Duke of Kent has lost the battle to ban commoners from its greens and fairways. Page 3

Carry on nurse

Patients have nothing to fear from nurses performing surgical operations as long as doctors retain overall responsibility for care, the British Medical Association said. Page 4

Whale claim

Japanese fishermen have slaughtered one of the world's rarest whales in defiance of an international conservation agreement, environmentalists claimed in Aberdeen. Page 6

Battle recommences at Little Bighorn

Old controversies threaten to reignite over the re-enactment of the battle of Little Bighorn, long considered a cornerstone in the US history of relations between Whites and Indians, an icon to doomed American courage and a bitter-sweet victory for the tribes. Tomorrow's rerun, marking the battle's 120th anniversary, is beset by claims of pro-Custer bias. Page 13

Orchid rescue

A fleet of lorries is making a five-mile trip from a Yorkshire building site to move 50 tonnes of soil complete with rare bee orchids to safety in a park. Page 7

Housing prices

The housing market's recovery is uneven, some areas recording 10 per cent price falls while others report price rises of almost a quarter. Page 8

New-look Pasok?

Andreas Papandreu's death could remove a major obstacle to the Europeanisation of Greece's ruling Pasok, the party he founded 22 years ago. Page 9

Murder charges

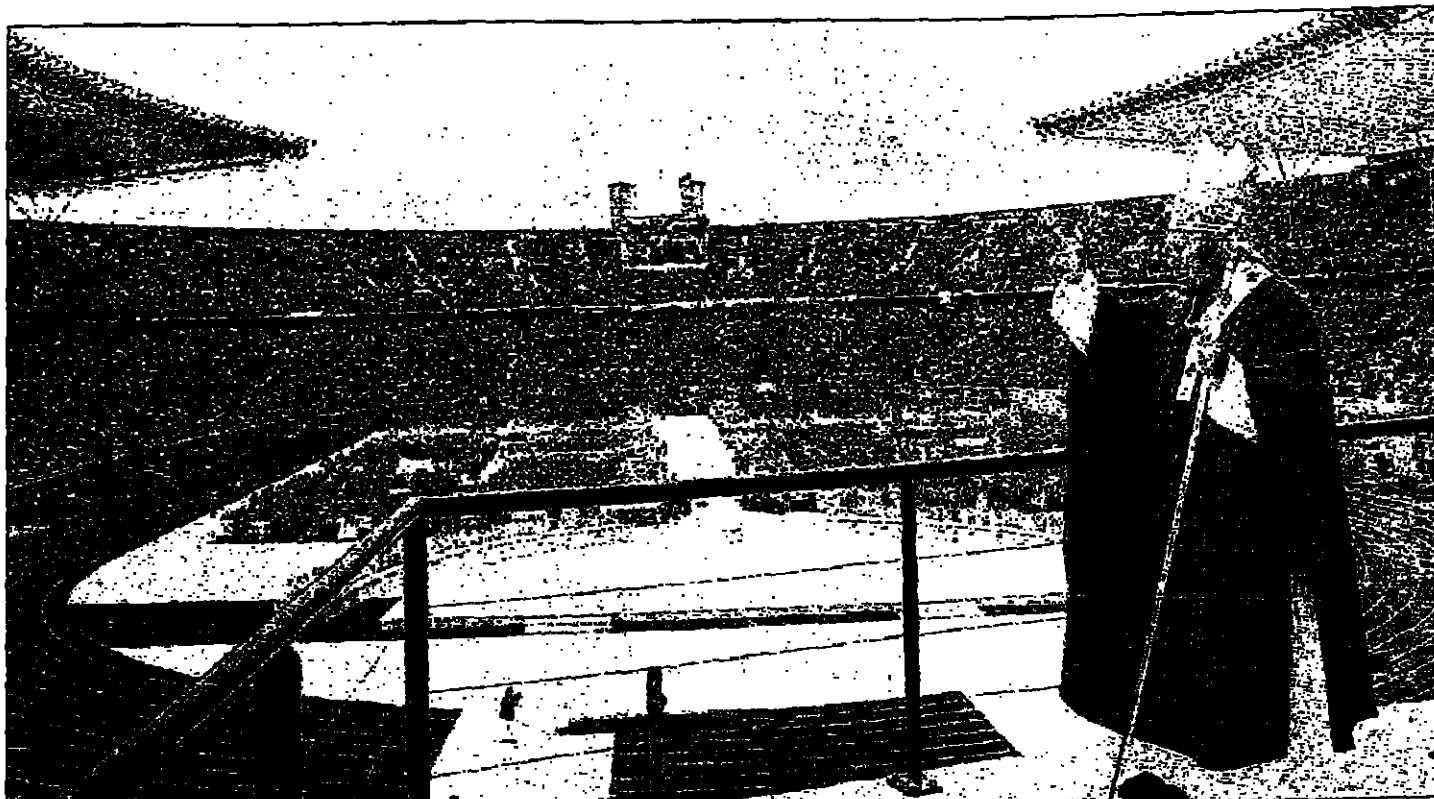
A man who kept up his bogus identity as a medical expert for 20 years appears in a French court today charged with murdering his wife, children and parents because he was about to be unmasked. Page 11

White House helper

The White House struggled to play down the latest revelation about Hillary Clinton — her use of a spiritual guru for conversations with the late Eleanor Roosevelt. Page 12

Mayan king found

An expedition led by *The Times*'s archaeology correspondent, has found the remains of a bejewelled Mayan king, thought to have ruled about AD 450. Page 13



The Pope waves to a 130,000-strong crowd yesterday at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin, which was built for the 1936 Games, during a Mass for the beatification of two German priests who opposed Adolf Hitler. Page 11

BUSINESS

Executive payouts: Top executives of the planned Lucas Varity combine could collect £8.7 million in compensation payments if they are dismissed within five years of the merger. Page 48

Energy row: The Government is likely to set a wide range of possible prices when it invites big investors to bid for shares in British Energy, the nuclear power company, this week because its advisers cannot agree what it is likely to be worth. Page 48

Cash card: A new pre-paid electronic card launched today by the Royal Bank of Scotland would replace travellers cheques by allowing travellers to extract foreign currency from cash machines abroad. Page 48

FEATURES

What we believe: Day one of a new series: Faith is more important to us than it has been for many years. Why do we need to believe and are we born with a sense of spirituality? Pages 14, 15

Is it really him? Your face can be your fortune if you are a double for the famous. Joseph Connolly discovers. Page 17

MIND AND MATTER

New dawn: Where will the first millennium sunrise take place? Norris McWhirter reports on the five locations vying for the honours. Page 16

Cell suicides: The trigger that leads cells to self-destruct has been discovered in Israel. Page 16

ARTS

Tube platform: Poems on the Underground marks its tenth anniversary with a competition. New and established poets are being invited to submit unpublished works on an aspect of urban life. Page 18

Dramatic double: At the Orange Tree in Richmond, abortion is movingly handled in Claire Luckham's play *The Choice*; at the Gate Theatre in Dublin, *The Invisible Woman* is updated. Page 18

Spontaneous music: The bizarre and the beautiful are featured in a three-day South Bank festival of improvised music. Page 18

Birthday treat: English National Opera honours Hans Werner Henze's seventieth birthday with a production of his *The Prince of Homburg*. Page 19

SPORT

Football: England meet Germany in the European championship semi-finals after the Germans defeated Croatia 2-1. Pages 25, 27

Bobby Robson: England have a real chance. Before they played Italy, I thought Germany were special, but Italy made them look ordinary. Page 26

Cricket: England, at 113-2 in their second innings, lead India by 28 runs in the second Test. Page 31

Tennis: The Wimbledon championships that start today have seldom had so many famous players worried by personal uncertainties or vulnerabilities. Page 34

Golf: Skill around the greens enabled Britain and Ireland to retain the Curtis Cup 11-6 against the US at Killarney. Page 36

Rugby union: Kieran Bracken, the England international scrum half, has joined Saracens after turning down a one-year contract with Bristol. Page 36

Racing: Shaamit, the Derby winner, is a late entry for the Irish Derby at The Curragh where he resumes his rivalry with Dushyant. Page 38

LOTTERY

3, 4, 7, 11, 17, 40. Bonus 20. Nine tickets share the £19.4 million jackpot: 42 with five numbers and the bonus receive £65,284; 1,834 with five win £934; 112,922 receive £33 each for four numbers.

TV STINGS

Preview: *Watchdog*: Value for Money turns its attention to best buys in shops (BBC1 7.30pm). **Review:** What fun to look at a drama, *Savannah*, in which hair colour plays such a decisive role in telling people apart. Page 47

OPINION

Historic rights

The Defamation Bill implements many sensible reforms proposed by Lord Justice Neill and his Committee, but they have been overshadowed by some ill-judged amendments. Page 21

Misreading Netanyahu

Analysis of Likud's record does not suggest it will be impossible for Arab leaders to do business with them. Mr Netanyahu has said he is willing to talk. He should be taken up on his offer. Page 21

Nightingale tradition

Patients would often prefer having routine surgery carried out by an experienced nurse than an exhausted junior doctor. Page 21

PETER RIDDELL

John Major is condemned to survive. He has repeatedly faced, or set himself, political traps from which he has escaped. Starting with the endless Maastricht saga, through successive European battles, to the leadership contest of a year ago, and the Florence summit, he has confounded predictions of disaster and defeat. Page 20

MATTHEW PARRIS

Sex, it seems to me, is sometimes placed by our age on some kind of pedestal, to be viewed with feelings which are a weird knot of reverence, dread, disgust, guilt and desire. Page 20

OBITUARIES

Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister of Greece; Ray Lindwall, cricketer. Page 23

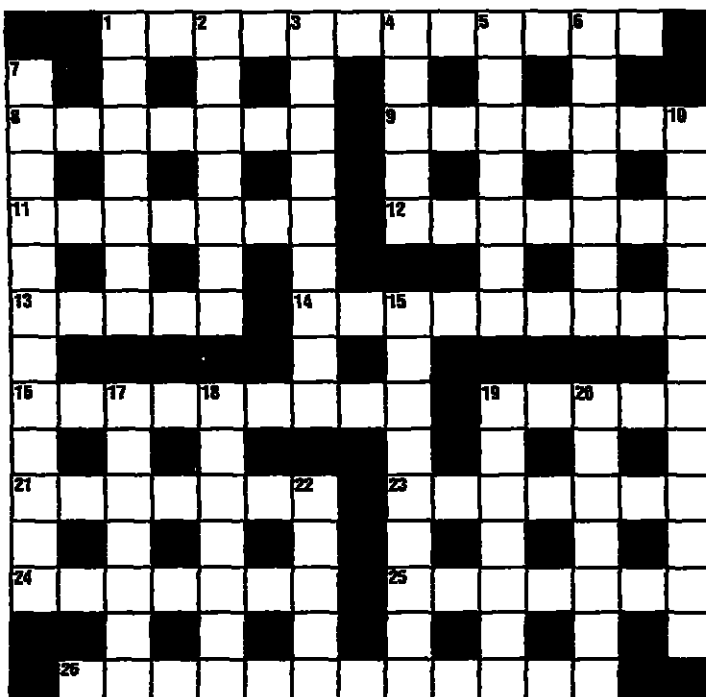
LETTERS

Opportunities for Labour; while hunting; marriage reform; executives' pay. Page 21

THE PAPERS

Few foreign policy decisions have proved so mistaken as the US embargo on Cuba. Clinton realises it is inappropriate, but dare not change the Cuban-exile lobby in election year. — *La Repubblica*, Rome

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,202



- ACROSS**
- 1 Con man takes drink with card-player (6-6).
 - 8 Awkward in manner, but having a point (7).
 - 9 Huge male insect seen around before noon (7).
 - 11 Lucy Ashton, say, taking in key to be cut (7).
 - 12 It provides warmth for extreme characters in the bush (7).
 - 13 Restraint a government department rejected frequently (5).
 - 14 Direct current (9).
 - 16 He leaves the drink with a fellow player (9).
 - 19 Ape turns tail, initially unnerving rodent (5).
 - 21 Bunting taken from door to landing (7).
 - 23 Ingredient of cosmetics put on all working at home (7).
 - 24 Gear for idling and sitting on the fence (7).
- DOWN**
- 2 The setter's unhurried progress? (7).
 - 2 Lie in a French port without cargo (7).
 - 3 Unusually silent car thief (9).
 - 4 Disbanding of brigade's beginning after march, perhaps (5).
 - 5 A jolly group member's put in for identification (7).
 - 6 Former religious work — one about outlandish objects (7).
 - 7 Sophisticate and Douglas getting in a fight? (3,5,4).
 - 10 Sort of duck given help, say, in part of pantomime (12).
 - 15 Sources of ethical pronouncements spoken in hazy conditions (9).
 - 17 Lie in hut, confused after funny turn (7).
 - 18 Christian monk or nun, for example (7).
 - 19 Music is able to, thanks to volunteers (7).
 - 20 Shouting loudly over grassland and heather (7).
 - 22 Material fellow's taken from New York to London (5).

ABERLOUR

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,201 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Code
Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
North of London	704
South of London	705
West Midlands	706
East Midlands	707
North Midlands	708
South Midlands	709
West of Wales	710
East of Wales	711
North of Wales	712
South of Wales	713
West of Scotland	714
East of Scotland	715
North of Scotland	716
South of Scotland	717
West of Ireland	718
East of Ireland	719
North of Ireland	720
South of Ireland	721
West of Europe	722
East of Europe	723
North of Europe	724
South of Europe	725
West of Africa	726
East of Africa	727
North of Africa	728
South of Africa	729
West of Asia	730
East of Asia	731
North of Asia	732
South of Asia	733
West of Australia	734
East of Australia	735
North of Australia	736
South of Australia	737
West of New Zealand	738
East of New Zealand	739
North of New Zealand	740
South of New Zealand	741

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA roadwatch information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Code
London & SE England	731
East of London	732
West of London	733
North of London	734
South of London	735
West Midlands	736
East Midlands	737
North Midlands	738
South Midlands	739
West of Wales	740
East of Wales	741
North of Wales	742
South of Wales	743
West of Scotland	744
East of Scotland	745
North of Scotland	746
South of Scotland	747
West of Ireland	748
East of Ireland	749
North of Ireland	750
South of Ireland	751
West of Europe	752
East of Europe	753
North of Europe	754
South of Europe	755
West of Africa	756
East of Africa	757
North of Africa	758
South of Africa	759
West of Asia	760
East of Asia	761
North of Asia	762
South of Asia	763
West of Australia	764
East of Australia	765
North of Australia	766
South of Australia	767
West of New Zealand	768
East of New Zealand	769
North of New Zealand	770
South of New Zealand	771

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday's highest day temp: Edinburgh, 20C (70F); lowest day temp: Cape Town, 11C (52F). Highest rainfall: Cape Town, 11.5mm; lowest rainfall: London, 0.1mm.

FLIGHT SAVERS

£58

LONDON TO GLASGOW EDINBURGH OR ABERDEEN

Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability and airport tax. Restrictions apply. See website p.354.

Air UK

FORECAST

General: England and Wales dry with sunny periods, but eastern England may be rather more cloudy at first. With light winds in many inland parts, it should feel warm.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mostly dry with sunny spells, but the far north of Scotland will be cloudier with some patchy light rain or drizzle at times.

Temperatures generally a little above average.

London, SE England, Cent S, SW, NW, Cent N England, Midlands, Channel Isles, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man: Dry and mostly sunny. Wind north or northwest, light. Warm. Max 21C (70F).

W. & S. Wales & Wales: Dry with sunny spells, perhaps some more cloud at times. Wind northerly, light to moderate. Max 20C (68F).

Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll: Dry with sunny periods. Wind west or northwest, mainly light. Warm. Max 20C (68F).

NE, NW Scotland: Rather cloudy but mostly dry, some bright intervals. Patchy drizzle at times, especially later. Wind west or southwest, light becoming moderate. Max 16C (61F).

Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy generally, some patchy drizzle at times, especially later. Wind northwest becoming southwest, moderate. Max 14C (57F).

Ireland: Dry with sunny spells, the best of the sunshine in the east. Wind mainly westerly, light. Warm. Max 21C (70F).

Outlook: Rain spreading south-east across all parts; becoming dry again with sunny spells.

Pollen forecast: north Scotland, low; North Wales, moderate; south Scotland, north England, moderate to high; N. Ireland, Midlands, East Anglia, South Wales, South East, South West, London, high.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Region	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humidity	Pressure	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humidity	Pressure
London	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Edinburgh	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Glasgow	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Aberdeen	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Cardiff	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Belfast	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Manchester	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Nottingham	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Leeds	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Sheffield	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Birmingham	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Coventry	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Warwick	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Gloucester	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Bristol	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Bath	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Salisbury	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Windsor	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Reading	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Southampton	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Portsmouth	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Brighton	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Hove	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Eastbourne	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Weymouth	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Bournemouth	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Swansea	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Cardiff	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Belfast	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Manchester	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Nottingham	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Leeds	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Sheffield	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Birmingham	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Coventry	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Warwick	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Gloucester	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Bristol	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Bath	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Salisbury	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Windsor	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Reading	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Southampton	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017
Portsmouth	16	16	61	b	1017	16	16	61	b	1017